THE

AMERICAN FARMER,

"O FORTUNATOS NIMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT
"AGRICOLAS." . . . . . *Virg.*

Vol. X. BALTIMORE, JUNE, 1855. No. 12.

LIST OF PREMIUMS

And Rules and Regulations for the Eighth Cattle Show AND Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition,

To be held by the MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at the Show Grounds, in the City of Baltimore, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 30th, 31st October, and 1st and 2d November, 1855.

PREMIUM ANIMALS.

Judges—President of Virginia State Agricultural Society, President of Delaware Agricultural Society, and President of Pennsylvania Agricultural Society.

For best Bull of any breed that has previously taken a premium of the Society for animals over 3 years old,					$30
For the best Cow,	do	do	do	do	30
do Stallion,	do	do	do	do	30
do Mare,	do	do	do	do	30
do Boar, over 2 yrs. old,	do	do			10
do Sow,	do	do	do	do	5
do Buck,	do	do	do	do	15
do Ewe,	do	do	do	do	10

☞For these premiums, it is expected the different breeds of animals will be brought into competition with each other. The awards will be made in favor of the animals which approach *nearest the standard of perfection for their various breeds and classes*, and without regard to their having previously taken the same premium.

CATTLE.

SHORT HORNS AND HEREFORDS—*3 years old or over.*

Judges—Gen'l Steinberger, Va, Cornelius Smith, Cecil co., and Wm. H. Jones, Somerset.

SHORT HORNS.

For best Bull 3 yrs. old and upwards,			$30
2d best,	do	do	15
For best Cow,	do	do	30
2d best,	do	do	15

HEREFORDS—Same premiums as Short Horns.

SHORT HORNS AND HEREFORDS—*under 3 years old.*

Judges—Sam'l Canby, Del., John Mulliken, P. George's, and Thomas F. Nelson, Summit Point, Jefferson Co., Va.

SHORT HORNS.

For best Bull between 2 and 3 yrs. old,			$15
2d best	do	do	8
For best Bull between 1 and 2 yrs. old,			15
2d best	do	do	8
best Bull Calf,			10
best Heifer between 2 and 3 yrs. old,			15
2d best	do	do	8
best Heifer between 1 and 2 yrs. old,			15
2d best	do	do	8
best Heifer Calf,			10
2d best	do		5

HEREFORDS—Same premiums as Short Horns.

DEVONS AND ALDERNEYS, *3 years old or over.*

Judges—John C. Clarke, Del., F. P. Lawrenson, Pikesville, Baltimore Co., and C. S. Wainright, New York.

DEVONS.

For best Bull 3 yrs. old, and upwards,			$30
2d best	do	do	15
best Cow,	do	do	30
2d best	do	do	15

ALDERNEYS—Same premiums as Devons.

DEVONS AND ALDERNEYS, *under 3 yrs. old.*

Judges—Hugh M. Nelson, Va., Edward Lloyd, Jr., Talbot Co., and Benjamin Howard, Kent Co.

DEVONS.

For best bull between 2 and 3 yrs. old,			$1

2d best Bull between 2 and 3 years old, 8
best bull between 1 and 2 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Bull Calf, 10
best Heifer between 2 and 3 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Heifer between 1 and 2 yrs. old 15
2d best do do 8
best Heifer Calf, 10
2d best do 5

ALDERNEYS—Same premiums as Devons.

AYRSHIRES AND HOLSTIENS, 3 *years old and over.*

Judges—G. Eldridge, Cecil Co., H. C. Burton, Del., and G. R. Dennis, Petersville, Fred. Co., Md.

AYRSHIRES.

For best Bull 3 yrs. old and upwards, $30
2d best do do 15
best Cow, do do 30
2d best do do 15

HOLSTEINS—Same premiums as Ayrshires.

AYRSHIRES AND HOLSTEINS, *under 3 years old.*

Judges—John B. Morris, Baltimore City, Wm. C. Wilson, Balt. Co., and T. Love, Balt. Co.

AYRSHIRES.

For best Bull between 2 and 3 yrs. old, $15
2d best do do 8
best Bull between 1 and 2 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Bull Calf, 10
best Heifer between 2 and 3 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do do 8
best Heifer between 1 and 2 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do do 8
best Heifer Calf, 10
2d best do 5

HOLSTEINS—Same premiums as Ayrshires.

NATIVES AND GRADES.

Judges—Wm. B. Stephenson, Harford Co., Hon. W. Newton, Va., and Dr. Kennard, Kent Co.

For best Cow 3 years old and upwards, $30
2d best do do 15
3d best do do 8
best Heifer between 2 and 3 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do do 8
3d best do do do 5
best Heifer between 1 and 2 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do 8
3d best do do 5
best Heifer Calf, 10
2d best do 5

IMPORTED CATTLE.

Judges—Charles B. Calvert, Prince George's Co., Geo. Cadwallader, Philadelphia, Richard Delaney, of Virginia.

For the best imported Bull of each breed, $30
do do Cow, do 30

WORKING OXEN.

Judges—William Jessop, Baltimore Co., Chairman, Saml. Sutton, Baltimore Co., and B. W. Harris, Cecil Co.

For best Yoke Oxen, 4 yrs. old and upwards, $30
2d best do do 15
3d best do do 8
best Yoke of Oxen under 4 yrs. 30
2d best do do 15
3d best do do 8
best Yoke of Cows, 30

☞A cart will be provided to test the working qualities of the animals.

FAT CATTLE.

Judges—Sterling Thomas, Baltimore City, Wm. H. Gatchell, Baltimore City, and John W. Rutledge, Harford Co.

For best pair Fat Steers, $20
best Fat Cow, 15

SHEEP.

FAT SHEEP.

Judges—J. S. Gittings, Chairman, J. M. Turner, Baltimore City, and Wm. Guy, Baltimore City.

For best Slaughtered Mutton, (long wool,) $10
do do do (middle wool,) 10
do do do (fine wool, native or mixed,) 10
For best lot of Live Mutton, not less than three in number, (long wool,) 10
do do do (middle wool,) 10
do do do (fine wool, native or mixed,) 10

SOUTH DOWNS AND SHORT WOOLS.

Judges—Geo. W. Dobbin, Howard Co., Danl. Lloyd, Talbot Co., C. C. Curtis, Gloucester Co., Va.

South Downs.—For best Buck, $15
2d best do 8
3d best do 5
For best pen of Ewes, not less than three, 15
2d best do do 8
3d best do do 5
For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 5
do do Buck do do 5
Short Wools.—For best Buck, 15
2d best do 8
3d best do 5
best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, 15
2d best do do do 8
3d best do do do 5
For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 5
do do Buck do do 5

☞Under a rule of the Society, Short Wool Sheep includes the Saxony and the Merino, which are to be brought into competition with each other, as animals of the same class, and not have premiums awarded to each as a variety of the same class.

LONG WOOLS, MIXED LONG WOOLS AND MIDDLE WOOLS.

Judges—D. M. Perine, Baltimore, John R. Emory, Queen Anne's, and M. F. Miley, Va.

Long Wools.—For best Buck, $15
2d best do 8
3d best do 5
For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, 15
2d best do 8
3d best do 5
For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 5
do Buck do do 5
Mixed Long Wools.—For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, 15
2d best do do 8
3d best do do 5

For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 6
Middle Wools.—For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, 15
2d best do do 8
3d best do do 5
For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 5

NATIVES AND GRADES.

Judges—Oden Bowie, Pr. George's, J. T. Blackiston, St. Mary's, and A. Reybold, of Delaware.

Natives.—For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, $15
Grades.—For best pen of Ewes, not less than 3, 15
2d best do do 8
3d best do do 5
For best pen of Ewe Lambs, not less than 4, 5

☞ The Long Wool Sheep comprise the Cotswolds, or New Oxfordshire, the Bakewell, or Leicester, and the Lincolnshire. The same number and amount of premiums to be awarded to each variety, separate in its purity.

Middle Wools, a cross of short wool upon a long wool.

Mixed Long Wools—A cross of one long wool upon another.

Natives, the Sheep of our country.

Grades, a cross of imported sheep with Natives.

IMPORTED SHEEP.

Judges—Col. Wm. D. Bowie, Pr. George's, Co., Dr. John R. Woods, of Albemarle Co., Va., and Murray Thomas, Baltimore Co.

For the best imported Buck and Ewe of each class—each, $15

SWINE---Large Breed.

Judges—Thos. C. Crookshanks, Cecil Co., Saml. Worthington, of Jno., Baltimore Co., and George Spencer, Kent Co.

For best Boar over 2 years old, $15
2d best do do 8
For best Boar over 1 year old, 15
2d best do do 8
For best Boar between 6 months and 1 year, 15
2d best do do 8
For best Breeding Sow over 2 years old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Breeding Sow over 1 year old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Breeding Sow between 6 months and 1 year, 15
2d best do do 8
best lot of Pigs, not less than 5, under 6 months old, 15
2d best do do 8

☞ The *Large breed* includes the Chester, Berkshire, Russia, Mackay, Leicester, and their grades.

SWINE---Small Breed.

Judges—Chalkey Harvey, Pa., S. M. Lee, Harford Co., and J. O. Wharton.

For best Boar over 2 years old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Boar over 1 year old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Boar between 6 months and 1 year, 15
2d best do do 8
For best Breeding Sow over 2 years old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Breeding Sow over 1 year old, 15
2d best do do 8
best Breeding Sow between 6 months and 1 year old, 15
2d best do do 8
best lot of Pigs, not less than 5, under 6 months old, 15
2d best do do 8

☞ The *Small Breed* includes Neapolitan, Suffolk, improved China, Chinese, Mocha, and their Grades.

HORSES.

BLOODED HORSES.

Judges—H. G. S. Key, St. Mary's Co., L. G. Morris, New York, Dr. Wm. H. DeCourcy, Wye Mills, Baltimore Co.

For best thorough bred Stallion, $30
2d best do do 15
best thorough bred Mare, 30
2d best do do 15
best do Colt or Filley, 3 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do do 8
best do do 2 yrs. old, 15
2d best do do do 8
best do do 1 yr. old, 15
2d best do do do 8

QUICK DRAUGHT AND SADDLE HORSES.

Judges—Major Wm. H. French, U. S. A., Frank Sullivan, Baltimore, and Wm. A. Combs, St. Mary's Co.

For best Stallion for quick draft, $30
2d best do do 15
best Brood Mare do 15
2d best do do 8
best Stallion for Saddle, 30
2d best do do 15
best Brood Mare do 15
2d best do do 8
best pair of Matched Horses, 15
2d best do do 8
best single Harness Horse, Mare or Gelding, 15
best Saddle Horse, Mare or Gelding, 15
best 3 year old Colt or Filley, 15
2d best do do 8
best 2 yr. do do 15
2d best do do 8
best 1 yr. do do 10
2d best do do 5

HEAVY DRAUGHT HORSES.

Judges—David Lee, Harford Co., Richard Johns, Baltimore Co., and Davidson C. Pearce, Cecil Co.

For best Stallion for heavy draft, $30
2d best do do 15
best Brood Mare do 15
2d best do do 10
best pair Horses do 15
best team of Horses, not less than 6, 20
best 3 year old Colt or Filley, 15
2d best do do 8
For best 2 yr. old Colt or Filley, 15
2d best do do 8
best 1 yr. do do 10
2d best do do 5

MULES AND JACKS.

Judges—Jno. C. Walsh, Harford Co., Dr. Dennis, Somerset Co., and Joshua Hutchins, Baltimore Co.

For best Jack, $18
2d best do 5
best Jennet, 10
2d best do 5

best pair of Mules, 15
best team of Mules not less than 6, 20

IMPORTED HORSES AND JACKS.

Judges—Col. Geo. W. Hughes, West river, A. A. Co., Anthony Kennedy, Howard Co., and Wm. H. Norris, Baltimore City.

For best imported Stallion, $30
do do Mare, 30
do do Jack, 18
do do Jennet, 10

POULTRY.

Judges—Chauncy Brooks, Baltimore City, Dr. S. S. Neill, Berryville, Clark Co., Va., and Alex. McTavish, Baltimore City.

For the best pair White Shanghaes, $2
do do Cochin China, 2
do do Red Shanghaes, 2
do do Yellow do 2
do do Imperial China, 2
do do Pearl White Dorkings, 2
do do Grey Chittagong, 2
do do Red do 2
do do Black Poland, 2
do do White do 2
do do Silver Pheasant, 2
do do Golden do 2
do do Spangled Hamburg, 2
do do White or Red Game, 2
do do Brahma Pootra, 2
do do Black Spanish, 2
do do Indian Mountain, 2
do do Wild Indian Game, 2
do do Sumatra Game, 2
do do Ostrich, 2
do do Bolton Greys, 2
do do Seabright Bantams, 2
do do Java Bantams, 2
do do St. Jago, 2
do do Great Malay, 2
do do Bankivas, 2
do do African Bantams, 2
do do Jersey Blues, 2
do do Common Dorkings, 2
do do Of any other breed, 2

TURKEYS, GEESE, DUCKS, PIGEONS, &c.

For the best pair of African Geese, $2
do do Indian do 2
do do China White Geese, 2
do do do Brown do 2
do do Barnicle do 2
do do Brent do 2
do do Hutchings do 2
do do Sperwing do 2
do do Cereopsis do 2
do do Snow do 2
do do Bremen do 2
do do Common do 2
do do Canada do 2
do do Java do 2
do do White Poland Ducks, 2
do do Common do 2
do do Muscovy do 2
do do Common do 2
do do White Turkeys, 2
do do Wild do 2
do do Common do 2
do do Capons, 3
do do Caponed Turkey, 3
For the greatest variety of Fowls, 10
do do Pigeons, 5

TOBACCO.

Judges—G. O. Gorter, E. Reynolds, and Frank Cook, all of Baltimore City.

For best sample, $20
2d best do 15
3d best do 10
4th best do 6
5th best do 4

The sample must be duplicate, drawn by a Tobacco Inspector, and no competitor shall receive more than one premium.

Agricultural Productions.

Judges—W. T. Goldsborough, Dorset, Henry Carroll, Jr., Baltimore Co., Wm. Reybold, Del.

For best 5 acres of Corn, $20
best 1 acre of do 10
best 5 acres of Wheat, 20
best 1 acre of do 10
best half acre of Irish Potatoes, 10
best 5 acres of Rye, 10
best 5 acres of Oats, 10
best 5 acres of Barley, 10
best 5 acres of Timothy, 10
best 5 acres of Clover, 10
best quarter acre of Ruta baga, 10
best do do Carrots, 10
best do do Sugar beets, 10
best do do Mangel Wurtzel, 10
best do do Turnips, 10

Awards will be made at the Meeting in October, on Wheat, Rye, Oats, Barley, Timothy and Clover. On all others on the list, awards will be made at the quarterly meeting of the officers of the Society, on the 1st Wednesday of February, 1856.

Competitors for Premiums for Agricultural Productions must produce a full statement of the mode of cultivation, and accompany the same with certificates of two respectable men, as to product and measurement of the ground, and also exhibit a sample of the crop at the Fair.

Agricultural Implements.

In addition to the superior claims of every Implement as to its Mechanical principles, the Judges shall be equally well satisfied as to the strength and durability of the iron and woodwork of the same—any deficiency in this respect, shall be cause of its rejection, or the denial of a premium.

CLASS No. 1.

Ploughs, Cultivators and Rollers.

Judges—Bryan Jackson, Del., W. W. Bowie, Pr. George's Co., and O. Horsey, Frederick Co.

For the best Plow with fixtures for plowing in lands infested with pea vines, running briars, wire grass, &c. $5
For the best single horse Plough, 5
do Cultivator, 5
do Harrow, 5
do Roller, 5
do Sub-soil Plough, 5
do Gang Plough, 5
do Hill-side Plough, 5
do Corn Planter, 5

CLASS No. 2.

Drills and Broadcasting Machines, Wheat or Grass Rakes by horse power, Cradles, Carts, Wagons, Wagon Gear, Cart Gear, Ox Yokes and Ox Gear.

Judges—John H. B. Latrobe, Baltimore City, Jno. Chandler Smith, Baltimore Co., and John Jones, Delaware.

Best Broadcasting and Drilling Machine, for grain or grass seed,	$10
Best Horse Rake,	5
do set of Wagon Harness,	5
do Ox Yoke,	5
do Grain Cradle,	3
do Farm Wagon,	10
do Ox Cart,	10
do Horse Cart,	5
do Cart Harness,	5

CLASS No. 3.

Horse Powers, Threshing Machines, and Separators or Straw Carriers.

Judges—J. Howard McHenry, Baltimore City, Geo. Blight, Pa., and C. Shepherd, Dorset Co.

For the best Sweep Horse Powers,	$15
do 2d best do do	10
do best Railway Horse Powers,	15
do best Threshing Machine,	10
do best Machines for threshing, Separating and cleaning grain at one operation,	20
do 2d best do do	5
do best Separator or Straw Carrier,	5

NOTE.—The Threshers and Straw Carriers are to be considered on their separate merits, and premiums to be awarded to each.

CLASS No. 4.

All Machines propelled by horse power not enumerated above, Corn Shellers, Corn and Cob Crushers, Straw Cutters, Corn Stalk Cutters, and Grinders by hand power.

Judges—J. H. Done, Baltimore City, Tench Tilghman, Talbot Co., and Robert Dick, Montgomery Co.

For the best Hay and Straw Cutter for Horse power,	$5
do do for hand power,	5
do Corn Sheller, for horse power,	5
do do for hand power,	4
do Corn Stalk Cutter and Grinder,	5
do Corn and Cob Crusher,	5
do Pump for horse powers,	10
do do for hand power,	4
do Root Cutter or Grubber,	5

CLASS No. 5.

All Implements and Machines not enumerated heretofore.

Judges—Thos. Iglehart, A. A. Co., Benj. Hickman, Delaware Co., Pa., and Jas. Carroll, Jr., Baltimore Co.

For best Fanning Mill,	$5
do Root and Vegetable Cutter,	3
do Drill Barrow, for root crops,	5
do Churn,	5
do Hay and dung Forks,	3
do Hand Rakes,	3
do Cider Mill and Press,	10
do Bramble Scythes,	2
do do Hooks,	2
do Seed cleaning Screens,	2
For best Milk Pans, not less than 6,	2
do Cheese Press,	2
do Stump Machine,	10
do Water Ram, in operation,	5
do Draining Tile,	5

Dairy and Honey.

Judges—Gen. B. C. Howard, Baltimore Co., Henry Jackson, Eutaw House, and Wm. H. Smith, Maltby House, Baltimore City.

☞The method of making the butter and cheese to be stated by each competitor. The Honey to be taken without destroying the bees, and the kind of hives used, and the management of the same, to be stated by the competitors.

For best specimen of Fresh Butter, not less than 5 lbs.	$5
2d best do do	4
3d best do do	3
For best firkin or tub of Salted Butter, not less than 6 months old,	10
2d best do do	5
3d best do do	4
For best Cheese, not less than 25 lbs.	5
2d best do do	3
For best Cream Cheese, not less than 5 lbs.	3
best 10 lbs. of Honey,	5
best Hive of Bees,	5

FRUITS.

Judges—Johns Hopkins, Dr. T. Edmondson, and G. W. Lurman, Baltimore City.

For the best and greatest number of choice varieties of Apples,	$5
do do do Peaches,	5
do do do Pears,	5
do do do Quinces,	5
do do do Grapes,	5
For the greatest number of choice varieties of different kinds of Fruit,	10
2d best do do do	5

VEGETABLES.

Judges—W. G. Harrison, Baltimore City, John Feast, Baltimore City, and John Merryman, Baltimore Co.

For the choicest and largest assortment of Table Vegetables,	$10
2d best do do	5
For best dozen long Blood Beets,	3
do do Turnip-root do	3
do do heads of Cauliflower,	3
do 6 do Broccolli,	3
do 12 do Cabbage,	3
For the best dozen Carrots,	3
do do Egg Plants,	3
do peck of Onions,	3
do doz. Parsnips,	3
do peck of Seedling Potatoes,	3
do do of Sweet Potatoes,	3
do 3 finest Pumpkins,	3
do 6 Winter Squash,	3
do Sample of Beans,	3
do do Peas,	3

FLOWERS.

Judges—Mrs. Gen. W. Dobbin, Mrs. John Glenn, and Mrs. G. W. Lurman—attendant, Col. J. W. Ware, Va.

For the greatest and choicest variety of flowers. $10
2d best collection, 5
For the best and greatest variety of Dahlias, 5
do do do Roses, 5
do do do Camellias, 5
do Floral Ornament, 5

BACON HAMS.

Judges—John C. Brune, C. C. Jamieson, and Hugh Jenkins, Baltimore City.

For the best Ham cured by exhibitor, $10
2d best do do 6
3d best do do 4
4th best do do 2

All competitors for these premiums are required to have their Hams cooked and brought to the Exhibition with the skin on. Each Ham must have a card attached to it, with a motto written upon it, and be accompanied by a sealed letter, endorsed with the same motto, in which shall be given the name of the exhibitor and a statement of the manner of curing.

Household Manufactures.

Judges.—3 ladies to be selected by the Marshal.

For best Quilt, $5
2d best do 4
For best Counterpane, 4
For 2d best Counterpane, 3
For best Hearth Rug, 4
2d best do 3
For best pair Home made Blankets, 5
do Home made Carpet, 4
For best made Shirt, 3
2d best do 3
For best fine long yarn Hose, 4
2d best do 2
For best coarse yarn Hose, 3
2d best do 2
For best home made Soap, 4
2d best do do 3
For best home made Bread, 3
2d best do do 2
For best home made Pound Cake, 3
do do Sponge Cake, 3
do specimen of Pickles, 3
do do Preserves, 3
For best specimen of Fruit jelly, 3
do do Embroidery, 3
do do Worsted Work, 3

☞ Discretionary premiums of $2 each can be awarded to meritorious articles not enumerated in the above list, to the amount of $50.

Trial of Speed,

According to Regulations to be published hereafter. To come off at 2 o'clock, P. M. each day of Exhibition.

Judges for Tuesday.—John Hanson Thomas, Hall Pleasants, and Wm. Gilmor—all of Baltimore City.

Judges for Wednesday.—John H. Sothoron, St. Mary's County; Chas. Ridgely of Hampton, and Wm. H. G. Dorsey, of Howard County.

Judges for Thursday.—Robert Gilmor, Baltimore County; Alex. Gordon, Baltimore City, and T. T. Hutchins, Baltimore County.

Judges for Friday.—Robert Dennison, Baltimore County, T. Harris Hodges, and T. Harris, Baltimore City.

PLOUGHING MATCH,

For the best Plough as shown by the work actually done, and the test of the dynanometer, $15
2d best do do 10
3d best do do 8
4th best do do 5
best Plowman, 8
2d best do 5
3d best do 4
4th best do 3

☞ Plows, Teams and Plowmen, must be on the ground by 11 o'clock on Thursday, ready to take the places which will be assigned them by the Judges.

Sweepstake Premiums.

Sweepstake Premiums are offered to all who are disposed to contend for them, under the following regulations:

1st. Persons desirous of competing for any of these Premiums, can do so by having their names entered with the Chief Clerk, at the Show Grounds on or before 1st day of the Annual Exhibition, and at the same time paying one dollar for each article contended for.

2d. The premium on each article will be composed of the whole amount subscribed, under the above regulation, for such article, and will be awarded to the subscriber who exhibits the best sample.

3d. No one can be a competitor for these Premiums who is not the actual producer of the article contended for.

Judges.—Dr. Jacob Shower, Carroll County, A. B. Davis, Montgomery County, and L. Tiernan Williamson, Baltimore City.

For the best bushel of Corn in the ear,
do do Wheat.
do do Rye.
do do Oats.
do do Barley.
do do Buckwheat.
do do Timothy Seed.
do do Clover Seed.
do do Orchard Grass Seed.
do do Irish Potatoes.
do do Sweet Potatoes.
do do Carrots.
do do Parsnips.
do do Sugar Beets.
do do Table Beets.
do do Ruta Baga Turnips.
do do Hybrid do
do do Mangel Wurtzel.

N. B.—Imported animals can primarily compete only for the premiums offered for such. But any imported animal of mature age to which (at a previous Exhibition of this Society, a first premium has been awarded,) will be admitted to competition with home-bred premium animals of the same class and species.

So soon as proper circulars can be prepared, the Secretary is to notify each of the above named judges of his appointment, All who shall not signify to him in writing their intention to serve, before the quarterly meeting in August next, will be deemed non-acceptant, and vacancies in the list will then be filled by the Board of Managers.

REGULATIONS OF THE EXHIBITION AND INSTRUCTIONS TO JUDGES.

A diagram of the Show Grounds, exhibiting the different stalls, pens, and boxes for the accommodation of live stock, will be open for inspection at the rooms of the society, from the 1st until 12 o'clock, noon, on the 15th day of Sept., 1855, when applicants who may be present in person, or by proxy, will be entitled to draw lots for choice of said stalls, pens, and boxes.

Those thus chosen shall be reserved, for the parties making the selections, until sun-down on the day previous to the opening of the exhibition, after which time all unoccupied places, may be allotted by the Marshal, in his discretion, to any members applying for the same.

All members of the Society, and all who shall become members previous to or at the Fair, will be furnished with badges, which will admit the person and the ladies of his family to the Exhibition at all times during the continuance of the Fair. Tickets to admit a single person, 25 cents.

All Exhibitors at the Fair must become members of the Society, and have their animals or articles entered at the business office, before taking them into the enclosure. Membership fee, $3.

All who intend to compete for premiums must have their animals or articles on the ground and duly entered (with a full description thereof,) at the business office before 6 o'clock, P. M. on Monday, 29th October.

This regulation must be strictly adhered to, otherwise the Society will not be responsible for the omission of any animal or article on the Lists.

No animals or articles entered for exhibition, can be taken away before the close of the Fair, except by permission of the Board of Managers—and no premium will be paid on animals or articles removed in violation of this rule.

Animals and articles entered for Exhibition will have cards attached with the No. as entered at the business office, and exhibitors should in all cases obtain their cards previous to placing their stock or articles on the show grounds.

The name of the owner shall in no wise be attached to any article or animal, nor shall the Judges be made aware of the same. But premiums shall be awarded by the Nos.—and when the stock is entered at the business office on the ground, a list and full description must be furnished.

The Judges on animals will have regard to the symmetry, early maturity, size and general qualities characteristic of the breeds which they judge. They will make due allowance for age, feeding and other circumstances on the character and condition of the animals. They will not give encouragement for overfed animals. They will not award premiums for Bulls, Cows, or Heifers, which shall appear to have been fattened for the butcher; the object being to have superior animals of this description for breeding.

No person whatever shall be allowed to interfere with the Judges, during their adjudications.

The Judges on stock, if not satisfied as to the regularity of the entries in their respective classes, will apply to the Chief Clerk for information; and should there be any doubt after examination, of their coming within the regulations, or if any animal is of such a character as not to be entitled to exhibition in competition, they may adopt such course as they may deem just, and report the facts to the Society.

The Judges will be expected in all cases in making their reports, to give the reasons of their decision, (especially in the case of animals), embracing the valuable and desirable qualities of the animals or articles, to which premiums are awarded. This requisition is earnestly urged upon the attention of the Judges.

When any thing is exhibited to the Judges, which they shall deem meritorious, but beyond their power to award a premium, they will furnish a note of the same to the Board of Managers, for their consideration and action.

No animal or article can take more than one premium.

No animal (except prize animals) which has previously taken the Highest Premium of the Society, can again become a competitor for a premium of the same grade.

When there is but one exhibitor, although he may show several animals in a class or subdivision of a class, only one premium will be awarded—that to be first or otherwise, as the merit of the animal or article may be adjudged. And a premium will not be awarded when the animal or article is not worthy, though there is no competition.

All animals or articles competing for the same premium must be brought together as the Judges may appoint; and the Judges may require in their discretion exhibitors to change the position and bring in proximity animals and articles concerning the comparative merits of which they may feel doubt.

Only members, whose subscriptions shall then be paid up in full to the end of the current year, can compete for premiums—and even such members can present for the consideration of the Judges no productions or articles which are not of the growth or make of themselves, or their subordinates. But all persons who may comply with the requisitions of membership as above stated, can enter for competition any animals in which their ownership is bona fide, and none others. Absent members, whose dues shall be fully discharged as above required, may be represented by agents.

Any one, who may not previously have joined the Society, paying $3 to the Treasurer or his authorized representatives at the office on the ground, or at the Society's Rooms, will be admitted to membership and be entitled to all the privileges thereof for the year 1855. The Treasurer and his deputies will furnish badges and certificates of membership to all who shall pay their subscriptions in full or their entrance fee as above stated—but no credit will be allowed for subscription or entrance, and no person will be permitted to vote or enjoy the other privileges of a member, unless his badge or certificate give evidence that he has duly joined the Society and is not in arrears.

Boys and Birds.—'In travelling in New Hampshire from Franconia to Connecticut river,' said a gentleman, 'I noted the bird-nests upon the trees that stood by the road-side, and felt delighted with the evidence which they gave of the good qualities of the mothers and children who live there. I noticed the nest of a bird within three feet of the front door of a dwelling. How confident was that dear little bird—well did it know that the good mother of that household had trained up her children in the way they should go.

MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS, AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON THE 2d MAY, 1855.

The President, Jas. T. Earle, Esq., on taking the chair, stated that the principal business which would come before the Board, was the arrangement of the premium list, and the appointment of the Judges for the Fall Exhibition.

Mr. R. M'Henry, of Harford, moved that a committee of five be appointed, to examine the list of the last year, and report to this meeting, what alteration, if any, is requisite for the next Cattle Show—which was concurred in, and Messrs. R. M'Henry, W. W. Glenn, of Baltimore, G. M. Eldridge, of Cecil, Bryan Jackson, of Delaware, and M. Goldsborough, were appointed the Committee.

Mr. Ware, of Virginia, presented the following report which was read:

As a member of the standing committee on sheep, I deem it my duty to report to the meeting an earnest recommendation to all breeders of sheep of all descriptions, to place their sheep—most especially in-lamb ewes—where they can at all times and without much travelling, obtain an abundance of water, particularly during the winter, when on dry food. The neglect of this will be found to result in a disastrous loss of lambs, and frequently of ewes too. Respectfully,

J. W. Ware.

The President called attention to the trial of a Plow invented by J. Reynolds, of Ohio, to take place this afternoon, at the Canton Company's grounds, and at the request of the patentee, invited the members of the Society to be present.

Attention was also called to Corsey's Corn Planter, and a newly invented Straw Cutter, from the establishment of Robbins & Bibb, of this city, which were on exhibition at the Society's Hall.

Dr. D. Stewart, from the committee appointed to examine the Reports from competitors for the premium of the Society for a Manual to guide the farmer in the analysis of his soil, which from its simplicity might be made available to the great body of farmers,* asked for further time to make a report—which was granted.

The President called the attention of the meeting to the report in the daily papers, on the prospect for the growing wheat crop, and requested the several members of the Society to give their views in regard to the same. In his own section, he remarked, he had seldom seen the wheat have a more unfavorable appearance at this period of the year. Mr. Clement, of Philadelphia, Mr. Tilghman, and Dr. DeCoursey, of Queen Anne's, Mr. Ware, of Virginia, Mr. Worthington, of A. Arundel, and Mr. Hamilton, of Charles, gave their views upon the subject, mostly corroborative of the President's remarks. Dr. DeCoursey moved that it be recommended to the members of the Executive Committee to make a report by the 15th of each month, of the state of the crops in their respective counties, which was concurred in. It was, on motion, further directed, that the reports be made to the Editors of the American Farmer, and that a copy of the same be furnished to the Editors of the Daily papers.

The President suggested to the Board the propriety of appointing a committee to prepare a memorial to the Legislature, for the endowment of an Agricultural College, by an appropriation of $150,000. Mr. Walsh, of Harford, moved that the President prepare the memorial, and that a committee of five be appointed to unite with him in presenting the same to the next Legislature—which was concurred in, and Messrs. Ch. B. Calvert, Dr. John O. Wharton, J. C. Walsh, W. W. W. Bowie, Col. G. W. Hughes, and N. B. Worthington, were appointed the committee.

Mr. M'Henry from the committee on the premium list, reported, that they would not be able to make a report until the evening. On motion it was ordered, that when the Board adjourns, it will adjourn to 5½ o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion, the President was unanimously requested to solicit Judge E. F. Chambers, of Maryland, to deliver the Annual Address.

The President arose to announce to the society the death of C. P. Holcomb, Esq, Vice President of this society for the State of Delaware, and after making some feeling and appropriate remarks on the character and services of the deceased, and the great loss sustained by the agricultural interest of this country, offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That this Society have received, with the profoundest sorrow, the announcement by the chair of the death of Chauncey P. Holcomb, Esq., of Delaware, late a distinguished member, and highly valued officer of this body.

Resolved, That in his death agriculture has sustained a heavy loss: that by his energy, and talent, his burning zeal and untiring industry, he has infused a spirit of progress and enterprize into this great interest, which will long remember its source, and continue a bright and imperishable monument to his memory.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be communicated, by the Secretary, to his family, with expressions of our sincere and heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

On motion of Col. Ware, it was ordered, that the vacancy in the Vice Presidency for Delaware, be now filled, which was concurred in. He then nominated Bryan Jackson, Esq., to supply the same, who was unanimously elected.

The meeting then adjourned until half past five o'clock.

Half past Five o'clock, P. M.

The Board of Managers re-assembled at the appointed hour, when Mr. M'Henry, from the special committee appointed to revise the Premium list, reported the same, which was read. Various alterations were suggested, and fully discussed—when Mr. Walsh moved that the whole subject be referred to the August meeting, which was dissented from.

Mr. Eldridge then moved that the Premium list of the last year be again adopted, with certain exceptions which will appear in the published list—which was concurred in.

Mr. H. Carroll, of Baltimore county, moved that all imported stock shall receive premiums on the scale heretofore adopted for sheep, which was concurred in.

The list of Judges selected by the committee, and the rules and regulations for the government of the exhibition, were adopted by the Board, and ordered to be published as usual.

It having been found that few of the subscription

*See note at bottom of these proceedings.

lists to the proposed "Agricultural College and Experimental Farm," had been handed in to the Secretary, on motion of Mr. M'Henry, of Harford, it was ordered, that the time for handing in such lists be extended to the 1st day of August next, before which period all friends of the projected institution are respectfully solicited to make known to the officers of the Society the amount which they are severally willing to invest on the terms specified in said subscription list. It was also ordered, on motion of the same gentleman, that the committee appointed to revise the Constitution of the Society, have leave to defer making its report until the next quarterly meeting of the Board on the first Wednesday of August next.

Mr. R. M'Henry, offered the following resolutions, which was read and concurred in:

Resolved, That the President of the Society be authorized and is hereby requested to confer with the citizens of Baltimore, to ascertain what amount of money will be contributed by said citizens towards increasing the attractiveness of the next annual exhibition of this Society, and that he is hereby empowered to pledge the faith of this Society, that whatever may be so contributed, will be expended strictly with a view to the object above indicated, and will, in no wise, be diverted to meet the other exigencies of this Society.

Resolved, That the President be requested to report the result of his negotiations under the above resolution to the quarterly meeting of the Board of Managers, to be held in August next.

Mr. Walsh, moved that the tickets for membership be reduced to $1—which, after some discussion, was laid on the table.

The Secretary reported to the Board of Managers that complaints had been made in regard to the condition of the Show Grounds, and moved that some action be taken in the premises. On motion, a committee consisting of Messrs. Merryman, Worthington, and Goldsborough, was appointed to visit the grounds, to determine whether any violation of the contract had been made by the present lessee.

On motion of Mr. Eldridge, the President and Secretary were appointed a committee to procure a suitable room for the Society's meetings, more retired from the street.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned.

Test, SAM'L. SANDS, *Secretary*.

NOTE.—The following proceedings on the subject of the Premium for an Essay on Analysis of Soils, were accidentally omitted in the report for February last:—

"Dr. Stewart asked farther instructions with regard to action of Committee on Essays upon the most practicable method of Soil Analysis adapted to the use of Farmers. He said that only about two days had elapsed since the reception of any essay: that the committee were at once called together, but it was found utterly impossible to examine one essay during the interim referred to.

The President enquired of Dr. Stewart, "If he thought it possible for a farmer with the usual college education to gain any valuable knowledge of the constituents or requirements of his soil by aid of a simplified formula and a few chemical tests, without expensive apparatus?" Dr. Stewart said that he thought it possible to devise such a formula.

He was then instructed to advise the committee that the formula *most practicable in the hands of the farmer*, was the object in view for which the premium was offered—and that a formula for analysis of manures, must not be regarded at all in connection with this matter, nor referred to in the report of the committee."

Dr. S. in making his motion, alluded to the misapprehension which existed in regard to the value of the analysis of soils, and was called upon by the President to state his views upon the subject, to which he assented. [At their request, Dr. Stewart has furnished the Editors of the American Farmer with a copy of his remarks, which will be found annexed:

"As it degrades the science of Chemistry to a mere trade, when we assert that it is necessary for an educated man "to breathe the atmosphere of a laboratory before he can use the simplest formula for analysis," and some *practical* chemists hold opinions directly opposed to the above proposition: I hope you will allow me to publish the annexed formula by way of illustration as an a fortiori argument—(phosphoric acid being the acknowledged *pest* of the most expert chemist heretofore.)*

Apart from the above, there are two errors frequently reiterated in public journals in this connexion, both of which I referred to perhaps in my remarks at the late meeting of the State Agricultural Society. The one is the idea that the most perfect analysis is the best and only valuable analysis. Clocks for the million at $10 per dozen, are now the source of more solid comfort, than the most perfect chronometer—and upon the same principle one fact with regard to 100 farms, is of infinitely more value than one million of facts with regard to any one soil. The absence of phosphoric acid for instance, in only one in 100 soils, is incomparably of more practical value to the agriculturist, than the ascertainment of the exact number of pounds per acre in any one farm, or the most perfect analysis of any one field, (which the Highland (Scot.) Journal, says, requires one whole year of the time of a professed chemist.) In order to diagnose the simplest disease that flesh is heir to, in the use of *all* the modern tests of disease, or means of diagnosis, I would consume one year of my patient's life, and of my own time. This is simply ridiculous; but much less so than a general analysis of a soil, to determine whether $500 shall be spent in phosphates, or $50 in plaster—just in proportion as the life of the man is of more importance than the $500.

The other error is the difficulty of getting a fair sample, which I will *for a moment* admit *for the sake of argument*. Accident may *possibly add to*, one of the several spots from which specimens of soil have been selected in order to compose a sample; but it is utterly impossible that any accident should *take away* any element from *seven* parts of a field. Every reasonable man must then admit, that although the presence of an element and its *exact* proportion *may* be of no (?) practical value to the farmer, nor prove that the same element exists in the average soil of his field—*still* the absence of an element, (phosphoric acid for instance) *is conclusive evidence* that it is required not only in one, but in *seven* different parts of his field, and the great presumption is that the same defect exists in all of his farm.

Admitting then the occurrence of such accidents, it only proves that every field should be analyzed, and the universal presence of any element regarded as an infallible sign, that it is not required on *any* of the fields, while the absence of an element *from*

*See Chem. Gaz. for 1852, p. 391.

any of the fields should indicate its general adaptation to the whole farm. Moreover the test should be adapted to the comprehension and use of the educated agriculturist, *if it requires* SEVERAL *trials*, in order *certainly* to know all the requirements of his farm—that the millions of dollars drawn from our State, to purchase manures, may be saved by science, and not wasted by empiricism.

DAVID STEWART, M. D.,
Chemist of Maryland State Ag. Soc'y.
Baltimore, May, 1853.

To the Editors of the American Farmer.

A MODE OF TESTING THE PRESENCE OF PHOSPHORIC ACID IN A SOIL.

Upon three watch glasses, each containing one-tenth of a solution of 1000 grains of soil—place severally ¼, ⅛, and one grain of molybdate of ammonia, and evaporate each to dryness on a water bath. Now add to the contents of each dish, an equal measure, say ⅛ oz. of nitric acid, and if no *yellow* precipitate remains undissolved, then no phosphoric acid exists in this sample of soil. If, however, a *yellow* precipitate does remain, and the half grain dish contains more than the quarter, and as much as the grain dish, then the proportion of phosphoric acid may be calculated as its relation to ¼ gr. is too great, and its relation to one grain is too small; it being necessary to have 30 parts of molybdic acid for every one part of phosphoric acid present, in order to the production of the full amount of yellow precipitate, *because this yellow precipitate is soluble in any excess of phosphoric acid.*

The solution of the soil may be made by throw upon a glass funnel 1000 grains (or 2 oz.) of soil, and filtering through it nitric acid, until 1000 grains (or 2 oz.) are collected. Rain water may be substituted for the pure nitric acid in larger proportions, and the solution may be obtained as I have directed in my formula published by Mr. Sands, in the agricultural report for 1853, p. 153-5, (and which I then copied from my formula deposited in the Smithsonian Institute in 1850.) I have tried the modes of using this reagent suggested by others, and utterly failed to approximate to the truth. Moreover this is by half the most expeditious mode that I have met with, and the only one practicable in the hands of a novice. It is one that I devised several years since, and have used repeatedly in teaching my students. 20 lbs. of phosphoric acid may thus be easily detected in an acre of soil in a few hours.*

DAVID STEWART, M. D.
Chemist of Maryland State Ag. Society.
Baltimore, May, 1855.

TO CURE THE CROUP.—A writer in the Country Gentleman gives the following prescription for the croup:—Divest the child of all clothing about the neck and chest; then bathe the throat and upper part of the chest freely with cold water. Let this be done by pouring, sponging or very frequent application of wet cloths. While this is being done, prepare warm water, and immerse the feet in it. This gives relief in a short time; the child should be put quietly to rest, with a jug of warm water to the feet, when perspiration and sleep soon follows. Any one can follow these directions immediately, and it is a complaint which is soon fatal, unless checked in the early stages, and many precious lives are lost because a physician is not at hand until too late to save from suffocation.

*See op. cit. p. 391.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

JUNE.

As this is a month of *action*, there is no time to be wasted in prefatory remarks, so that we shall proceed at once to point out a few of the many things that should be attended to, first suggesting that, in nine cases out of ten, entire success can only be calculated upon where the proprietor gives close personal supervision to all the operations conducted on his estate.

HARVESTING.

In many of the more Southern States where our journal circulates, the harvest will have commenced, if not been completed before our present number reaches our subscribers; but as over a vast and extensive breadth of the wheat-growing regions, this is the wheat harvest-month, we shall indulge in such hints as appear to us to be opportune to the occasion, and to be promotive of the interests of our patrons.

Harvest Force.—If your own farm hands are not *fully* numerous enough to *harvest, cure*, and *store away* all your grain, lose no time in securing the services of such hands in your neighborhood as can be relied upon for skill, industry, faithfulness and sobriety; for you may take our word for it, that it is more *economical* to have *too many*, than *too few* hands upon such occasions.

Implements for harvesting.—Make it a point of duty to provide yourself with an ample supply of implements, and be sure to have them of the best quality, as they are always cheapest in the end.

Harvest Stores.—Let your supply of harvest stores be *ample* in quantity and *good* in quality. No farmer ever yet suffered by having made generous provision for his harvest hands. The very fact that a farmer's supplies are of such character in time of need, attracts to his service the best hands, and affords him an opportunity of making his choice from among them. But, besides this personal advantage which enures to the master and employer, there is a nobler consideration, which should influence his action in the premises. From the trying and exhausting nature of labor performed in the harvest field, under an intense sun, the system requires tempting and nourishing food, to sustain its muscular energies in their integrity, and the mind in that state of buoyant animation which imparts power, force, and endurance to the body, so that, to the great moral lever, whose influence should have weight, interest comes in to its relief, as the well cared for hand, is more able to perform a full day's labor, than is the one who is not so fortunate as to have the demands of his inward man so well provided for.

Treatment to Harvesters.—To ensure faithful labor from, and kindly treatment to the harvesters, the *master*, or *employer*, *should be present in the field*, encouraging the men by his presence and his language, for either may rest assured, that *presence*, and *kindness, go far to ensure fidelity.* If *lunches* between meals, were carried to the field and given to the harvesters, it would have the happiest effect, in bracing up their nerves for renewed labor; for besides the benefit arising to the physical part of the man, such attention appeals to his mental faculties, and excites his ambition, and stimulates him to exertion; for there are but few men, however humble they may be in the scale of humanity, but feel the softening influences of kindly treatment. Besides these lunches, the hands should be supplied every

half hour with some *cool refreshing beverage;* and we know of none better suited to the purpose, than a drink composed in the proportion of *half a gallon good molasses, to 5 gallons of cool water*, into which *¼th of a lb. of good strong pulverized ginger* has been infused. This beverage is at once safe, pleasant, refreshing and invigorating. In the distribution of such drinks every half hour, the services of a man, or boy, may be very advantageously and exclusively devoted throughout the day.

Time of reaping the grain.—When the straw for 3 or 4 inches beneath the head becomes yellow and dry, is the proper time for harvesting wheat—it should never be permitted to remain uncut until it is either ripe or dead-ripe. Grain cut at this period is plumper, thinner skinned, more nutritive, makes better flour, and weighs heavier, than when it is permitted to become dead-ripe before being cut; besides which, the loss from shattering is avoided, while the danger of injury and loss from the *rust*, which mostly occurs a few days before the grain is ripe, is prevented. Again, the straw for feeding purposes, is at least *one-third* more valuable, when cut in a greenish state, than when cut after it has become dry and arid, standing on its roots in the field. And still again, by cutting early, *more time*, an important consideration, will be allowed for harvesting.

Cultivating Corn.

Upon this subject we feel confident that we cannot do a better service than by repeating substantially what we have so often written before. We say then keep the *cultivator and hoe* going in your corn fields, so as to entirely keep down all grass and weeds, and the soil open to the influences of the atmosphere, until the plants get into silk. Particularly should you be careful to keep them going in times of drought, as it is then that the plants need the moisture derivable from dews and the atmosphere, and that the soil should be in a condition to attract, absorb, and condense the nutrimental elements therein contained—and reason and chemical science both concur to inform us, that the atmosphere and dews are rich in the food of plants. We are opposed to the use of the plough in the cultivation of corn for two substantial reasons: first the plough lacerates, cuts off, and bruises the roots, thereby depriving the plants of their mediums of feeding, and suspending for a time, and until new roots are formed, their power of deriving food from the earth,—and *secondly*, because the plough turns up the manure to the surface to be bleached, and deprived of its volatile elements, which are, in fact, the nutrimental portions of the manure—those portions which give vitality to, and insure the vigorous growth of the plants, and, as a consequence, these ammoniacal elements are wasted in the air, and the plants robbed of that portion of their food.

Beets.

The *Mangel Wurzel* and *Sugar beet*, may both be put in up to the 10th of this month. The crops, except under peculiarly favorable circumstances of seasons, will not be so large as they would, had they been put in about the 1st of May; but still they will be remunerative, and help to eke out your stock of cattle provender next winter and spring.

Carrots.

The Carrot should have been drilled in the beginning of last month, but they may still be during the first week in this. The soil should be a deep sandy loam, and be liberally manured with rotten dung, or guano, ploughed deep and thoroughly pulverized: For mode of culture, see last month's directions. The carrot is among the best food for milch cows—make an excellent *alterative* food for horses and mules, and are well relished by all kinds of stock. We will seize this occasion to remark, that this root as well as all others, should be always mixed with cut hay, straw, or fodder when fed to stock of all kinds.

Potatoes.

It is late to put in Irish potatoes, they may, however, be planted up to the 10th of this month, with prospect of a tolerable crop, should the season prove favorable, and the vines and tubers escape the rot.

Broadcast Corn.

To prevent your milch cows from suffering in early fall, for want of succulent long food, prepare a few acres, by heavy manuring, deep ploughing, and thorough pulverization, then roll, and sow broadcast thereon, at the rate of 3 bushels of corn per acre, harrow and cross-harrow it in, then sow broadcast, at the rate of 5 bushels of ashes and 1 of plaster per acre, and complete your work by rolling.

Such corn before being fed to stock, should be cut one day before hand, and suffered to wilt in the sun.

Millet.

To guard against a scant supply of hay or other long provender for your stock next winter and spring, put in a sufficient number of acres of light loamy, or deep sandy land, in *millet*. The land must be heavily manured, deeply ploughed, and thoroughly pulverized if you desire a good crop. With these conditions complied with, the season favoring, you may expect grass enough to make you from 3 to 4 tons of good hay. Sow 3 pecks of seed to the acre, harrow it in, and roll. *Time of cutting*. When the seed at the top of the head turn yellow, cut the grass, let it remain in the swarth half a day, then complete the curing in cocks, making them small at first, and increasing their size afterwards by putting two or three together.

Cutting Clover.

Clover for hay should be always cut when it first comes into bloom. Clover cut early, does not lose its leaves, and makes the best hay.

Buck-wheat.

This grain may be sowed any time during this month, the sooner after the middle of the month, the better. It is a sure crop even on a poor soil, with the aid of a moderate dressing of manure.

Of the Manure.

Ten loads of barn-yard manure; or 10 loads of any good compost, or 10 bushels of bone dust and 10 bushels of ashes, mixed together, or 200 lbs. of guano, mixed with 50 lbs. of plaster, will ensure a good crop. The barn-yard manure, compost, and guano to be ploughed in; the bone dust and ashes to be harrowed in, each to be rolled in. Half a bushel of seed is enough for an acre.

Time of Cutting.—As buckwheat, when permitted to get all ripe before being harvested, is apt to shatter; it should be cut when one-half the grains on the head are ripe, which will be known by their turning black.

Cure as you would any other grain, and thresh the grain out soon after the straw becomes dry.

Wet Lands.

All wet lands on a farm should be drained. Wet lands do not yield within 40 per cent in quantity,

what they would if they were drained, while the quality of the produce is inferior; manure, whether organic or inorganic, applied to them has but a partial effect. Wet lands are later by three weeks than after being drained: wet lands conduce to autumnal fevers, thereby impairing the health of the farm. *Marshes*, where susceptible of it, should be ditched and drained.

Ruta-baga or Swedish Turnip.

As the suffering of the stock throughout the past winter and the early part of spring, in many parts of the country, owing to the want of provender, was great, amounting in some cases to death by starvation; we do trust that humanity, as well as interest, will prompt our farmers and planters to put in good breadths of land in the Ruta-baga turnip. We point to this particular root now, for many reasons, and among the rest, the following: for stock feeding this root stands deservedly high, is productive, and more nutritive than any other of the turnip family; for spring use, it is a very good table vegetable, and should, we think, enter into very general culture, both for stock feeding and for the table; the more especially should this be the case, as it is hardier than any other variety of turnips, is easily kept, and retains its edible qualities to a very late period of the spring, long after other kinds cease to be fit for table use. For cattle and sheep, it is equal to almost any other root grown, and is good to be occasionally fed to horses, cut fine, mixed with cut straw or hay, as an alterative feed; and as the Ruta-baga turnip when properly cultivated yields well, and a very few acres, or even one, would add greatly to the feeding resources of the farm.

Time of Sowing.—When raised as stock food exclusively, early sowing is desirable, as that secures the growth of large roots, and of course an increase of quantity. When, therefore, intended for such use, they should be gotten in between the *15th and 25th of June:* if wanted for *table use*, the seeding may be delayed until the *15th of July*. It would, however, even for such purpose, be best to get the seed in during the first week of the latter month.

Soil adapted to their Culture.—Like every other variety of the turnip, the Ruta-baga delights most in deep, light, rich, sandy moulds; grass-swards and clover leys, suiting them best, next to new grounds; and we take it that the reason why new grounds favor the growth of turnips more than old ones, is, because it finds more potash in the former than in the latter. The turnip has been called a potash plant, and well it may be, for its ashes, when analyzed, is found to consist of 86.60 parts of the salts of potash and soda, and 18.40 of the salts of magnesia and lime, hence it would seem to follow that whatever organic manures may be applied—whatever other inorganic manures that may be applied, ashes must form a prominent part or something else yielding potash, if the soil cultivated in them be not new grounds.

Preparation of the ground.—As our readers are pretty well aware, we go for thoroughness in all preparations of the soil, but in this crop it is especially necessary. Where it may be practicable, the land should be ploughed two or three times, and ploughed deeply, say from 8 to 10 inches in depth, to be accompanied each time by repeated harrowings and rollings, so as to reduce the soil to the finest possible subdivision. If it so happens that only one ploughing can be given, *that* must be executed with the greatest nicety and exactness, of the depth above named,—and if possible, the land should be subsoiled at the same time; the tilth to be reduced to the utmost fineness, by harrowing, cross-harrowing, and rolling.

If intended to grow the Ruta-bagas broadcast, the manure must be evenly spread and ploughed in. When thus grown, they will require one-third, if not one-half more manure. When raised in drills, as they ought to be, the manure must be spread evenly in the drills, as hereinafter directed.

Preparation of the ground for drilling. The ground being prepared, by ploughing, harrowing and rolling, as before directed, run furrows north and south from 20 to 24 inches apart, 4 inches deep. Into these furrows distribute your manure as equally as possible; the manure being deposited in the furrows, cover it with a plough, and run a light harrow over the furrows.

Drilling in the seed.—Your furrows being prepared as above, the next thing is to drill in the seed, which is best done by a drilling machine. If you have none, buy one, for every farmer should possess that machine. Take your drilling machine and drill in the seed on the top of the line of the furrows prepared as before directed, and your work will be done, as the drilling machine will make the drills, drop the seed, cover, and roll all at one and the same time, thus economising time, labor, and money.

But if you have no drilling machine, then you must adopt the next best plan: stretch a line along the centre of the furrow, and with a marking rake, or the corner of a hoe, trace a drill 1 inch deep, drop the seed from the mouth of a quart bottle, or tin seeding horn. The bottle, or horn, must have in it equal quantities of seed and sand, and be kept constantly on the shake as the sower proceeds, in order that an equal and thin distribution of the seed may be effected. The driller must be followed by a hand with a rake, to cover the seed with the rake, and press the soil down on them with the back part of it.

Kinds and quantities of manure.—For *broadcast culture*, it will take 15 to 20 two-horse cart-loads of well rotted manure, in which there should be mixed 40 bushels of slaked ashes: if *guano* be used, 400 lbs. of Peruvian guano, mixed with 1 bushel of plaster will be required: if guano and bones be used, 300 lbs. of Peruvian guano, and 4 bushels of bone dust, to be mixed with 1 bushel of plaster will be required. The above quantities are for an acre to be put in Ruta-bagas.

The following would be an excellent and efficient dressing for an acre of Ruta-bagas. Dissolve 4 bushels of bone dust with 100 lbs. of sulphuric acid; the sulphuric acid must be diluted with thrice its bulk of water: place the bones in a hogshead, or any other tight vessel, then place one-third the quantity of dilute acid over them, stirring them so as to incorporate the acid thoroughly with them—let them remain one day, then add another third of the diluted acid upon them, stirring as before directed, let them remain one day; on the third day pour the remaining third part of the diluted acid upon the bones, stirring them as before: on the 4th day mix with the bones thus dissolved, 100 lbs. of Peruvian guano, and 10 bushels of slaked ashes—the mixing to be thorough, and the compost will be ready to be applied.

If the Ruta-bagas be grown in *drills*, ⅔ of the before mentioned quantities will answer.

Quantity of seed per acre.—If sown *broadcast* 2 lbs. of seed will be required—if sown in *drills* 1 lb. will answer.

Preparation of the seed.—Soak the seed from 12 to 24 hours in fish oil, strain the oil off thoroughly after the expiration of the time of soaking, then mix them with a sufficient quantity of ashes, plaster, or soot, to separate the seed and render them easy to sow, or drill. Previous to being sown, the seed must be mixed with twice their volume of sand to ensure a thin and equal distribution of them.

After Cultivation.—As soon as the plants come up, for several mornings in succession, while the dew is on them, the plants must be dusted over with a mixture comprised of 2 parts ashes, 1 part soot, and 1 part plaster. This must be continued until the plants get into the rough leaf, the neglect of a single morning may defeat the object in view—the protection of the plants from the fly and other enemies—the dusting must always be done in early morning, while the plants are wet with dew.

When the plants in the drills are large enough to be worked, run a small cultivator between the middle of the rows, leaving the line of plants undisturbed; the *plants* must be worked by hand and hoe at the same time.

At an interval of a week, give the plants a second working; thin them out so as to stand 8 inches apart in the rows.

Should there be any naked spots, where the seed may have failed, or the plants perished, draw plants from where they may be too thick, and dibble them in the vacant places, 8 inches apart: for this transplanting, a wet season must be selected.

At the time of the second working, sow per acre, broadcast a bushel of a mixture comprised of equal parts of ashes, plaster and salt.

In 10 days time after the second working, give the plants a *third* working, and your labor of cultivation will have been done, unless the season shall prove unusually encouraging in the growth of weeds, in which case they must be eradicated.

Ruta-bagas which may be sown broadcast, must be thinned out so as to stand 12 inches apart every way. The earth must be frequently stirred, and kept entirely free from weeds and grass: the first working could be most effectually executed with a light harrow.

Poultry Houses, and Poultry.—Clean out your poultry houses weekly: save the manure, as it is a most excellent fertilizer, when properly managed. Each weekly collection should be placed in a barrel, strewed over with plaster or pulverized charcoal; the barrel should be covered over and kept in a dry place.

If your fowls have not access to a running stream, provide them with fresh water thrice a day.

In cold, wet, or damp weather, have the young broods protected by shelter; and see upon such occasions that they get shallots, chives, or leeks, finely chopt up and mixed with their feed.

Materials for Manure.

Collect all such materials as are convertible into manure, and compost them, in order that you may have fresh supplies of mould for your land. Recollect that *mould* is the vital element in every soil.

Meadows.

If your meadow needs renovation, after your grass crop is off, harrow it and broadcast thereon, per acre, two bushels of bone dust, which had been previously composted with 5 bushels of ashes, and 1 bushel of salt, and laid in pie two or three weeks.

If you have no meadow, and desire to form one, set to work at once, and collect the manure to enrich your land, so that you may have it manured, ploughed, and thoroughly pulverized, and ready to be seeded to grass between the 20th of August and 10th of September.

If you wish to grow grass to make into hay, for sale, seed your meadow with timothy seed alone, as timothy commands a higher price and readier market than any other kind of hay. But if you wish to form a meadow exclusively for your own use, without any expectation of selling hay—but with the two-fold purpose of growing hay for your own stock, and to provide them also with a good pasture after the hay crop is cut and secured, then we would advise you to sow a mixture of several kinds of grass seeds, as *Timothy, Kentucky Blue Grass, Orchard Grass,* Perennial Rye Grass, and sweet scented Vernal grass, in the following proportions: 1 peck of timothy seed, ½ a bushel of Kentucky Blue grass seed, 1 bushel of orchard grass seed, ½ a bushel of Perennial Rye grass seed, and 3 lbs. of Sweet Scented Vernal grass seed per acre.

Such a mixture will afford you luxuriant crops of hay, and excellent pasture for your stock from after hay-harvest, each year for 10 or 12 years, provided you top-dress your meadow every *second* year, as we have advised for the renovation of meadows. Without periodical top-dressings, no meadow can be maintained in productiveness. To take all out in the shape of hay crops, and depasturing, and return nothing to the soil, must necessarily exhaust the soil, and as a consequence, the cultivated grasses run out, and inferior sorts take their places.

Fences.

Examine, and repair these, if they need it, without delay.

Gates and Bars.

Any field that may be entered by bars, should have the bars substituted by a light well hung, and securely fastened gate.

Implements and Tools.

These should be subjected to short and rigid examinations, and all necessary repairs made.

Orchards.

As the fruit in your orchards may fall, have them gathered and cooked for your cows and hogs. Apples cooked, mashed, and made into slop, with meal, or bran, are highly relished by both the animals named, are productive of milk in the one, and fat and muscle in the other. Besides which, you will effect another good. By picking up and cooking the fallen apples, you will destroy miriads of those insects that *destroy* both trees and fruit.

Beans.

If you desire to grow food for your sheep, that is best adapted to encourage the growth of wool, prepare an acre or so of land, the first week in this month, by manuring, ploughing, and pulverizing, and plant beans therein. A gill of bean meal and 2½ lbs. of hay, or fodder will keep a sheep in fine condition.

Mortality Among the Cows.—It is stated in the Cleveland Plain Dealer that the scarcity of food for stock in Trumbull, Geauga, Ashtabula, Portage and Summit counties, Ohio, has been so great that a most unparalleled loss has occurred among the stock of cows of the dairymen. More than four thousand have died in the county of Trumbull alone, and from all accounts it is supposed the number lost on the Western Reserve will not fall short of sixteen thousand.—[We have seen this statement doubted.]

THE OREGON PEA.

We disseminated a large number of small packages of this celebrated pea last season, and have had very favorable reports of it, but in alluding to the subject now, we do not wish to be considered as endorsing all that has been said of it. The report of its great value, as published under the authority of the Patent Office, and copied into our journal, created no little sensation, tho' we cannot say that we had the same confidence in its virtues that was claimed for it in that report. The following candid statement, however, of the result of a trial made by the editor of the Clarksville (Va.) Cotton Planter, goes very far to confirm the reports which were published by us last year. The writer after alluding to the wonderful qualities of this pea, as claimed by the Patent Office report and other authorities, states that he with others obtained small parcels, which were divided and subdivided, "so eager was every body to try this extraordinary product of nature, *for himself*"—he republishes the account of it from the Patent Office, (which can be found in June No. page 381, of the American Farmer, vol. 9, for 1854,) and adds:

"Those planted here answered accurately to the description given above. Some of them, indeed, came from the Patent Office, and there can be no doubt of their genuineness.

It is not an early pea, as the accounts represent. The vine grows very large before it blooms, and these don't all appear simultaneously either, but the first crop and others appear in succession, continuing so throughout the summer, so that the same vine contains dried peas and unopened blossoms. We should advise, then, that it be planted early if a full crop of the seed is desired. If hay is the object, later planting will do, for the rapidity and luxuriance of its growth exceeds any thing else we ever saw. We did not see any vine as large as a tobacco hogshead, but from the size which they attained in very moderate soil, we do not think it at all remarkable that they should reach those dimensions in the fertile valleys and warm climate of the Mississippi. The description is entirely accurate in regard to its growth, which resembles the cotton plant very closely. The stalks shoot out from the main stem in a similar manner, the branches are divided and subdivided again and again, and filled with large, luxuriant leaves, which give the plant a very rich and beautiful appearance. The stalk is brittle, and supporting so large and heavy a top is liable to be broken by the winds and rains which occur among us every summer. Indeed all that we saw were broken in this way, last summer. But their growth is not perceptibly retarded by such an accident. Unless broken entirely off, the branches turn up and the plant continues to flourish as luxuriantly and richly as ever. In truth, it is doubted by some whether the breaking is not an advantage, for it is thus enabled to spread more, and the matting of the branches from contiguous plants form a complete protection to the soil.

The account given of its heavy yield we are fully prepared to believe. The vines were loaded with clusters of pods, which ripened successively, and were succeeded by fresh crops, so that the result might reach an almost indefinite amount. We heard many speak of it, and all agreed that the yield was heavier than from any other plant grown in this section. There is little difficulty in gathering them, we think. The pods should be pulled off while wet with dew, and when dried they either burst spontaneously, or are threshed out with the greatest ease.

As an article of human diet, we think it is worthless. We tried it and knew others to try it, but the impression was that it was worthless. For horses and cattle we think it must prove, if properly appreciated, invaluable for this section. They devour it either green or dried with the greatest avidity. We saw them several times leave oats to eat the pea vine. The feature of most value in this connection, is that the vine cures with the leaf on. At different stages of its growth, before and after bearing, vines were cut and heaped up, to ascertain if the leaf would drop in curing, but it did not, and no shaking or handling could make it drop. This feature of the Oregon Pea supplies a desideratum. It offers the farmer a means by which he can lengthen out his supply of fodder to any extent. Almost any time during the summer when he desires to have an additional supply of hay, he may drill a lot with the Oregon Pea, cultivate, cut and cure it, and it will furnish five times as much fodder for the extent of surface as anything else he can plant.

As an improver of the soil, it must be very valuable. The vast amount of the finest pea haulm protecting the soil during the heat of summer and turned in before frost with a heavy double plough would necessarily contribute vastly to enrich it.

As to the growth on poor and rich land: the vine no doubt grows larger on rich land, but the difference is nothing like so great as we should imagine. Vines planted contiguously on poor red land and grey soil presented no great difference. At any rate it will grow longer and yield more on poor soil by nine or ten fold than any other pea we know. It will grow large on any land, and furnishes a fine supply of vegetable matter for the soil.

Upon the whole, then, we are inclined to esteem the Oregon Pea a valuable adjunct to the farmers in this section. As a heavy producer it is unsurpassed; for the immense yield of vine it is not equalled by anything else we ever saw; as a hay crop it is invaluable by reason of the fact that it cures up with the leaf clinging to the stem, and is eagerly devoured by cattle and horses; and as an improver of the soil it must be very valuable. We know that many persons, who expected nothing less than a miracle from it were disappointed, but we are firmly convinced by our observations that the Oregon Pea will be valuable to the farmers of this section if properly used."

The above result tallies with accounts we have received from parties in this vicinity, who obtained small parcels from us last summer—others, however, have not been equally well satisfied, tho' these latter admitted that they might not have obtained the genuine seed. An esteemed friend in N. Carolina has kindly forwarded us a small lot for gratuitous circulation among our patrons, which will be forwarded on the same terms as furnished last year. We have also been supplied with a small lot for those who may desire to obtain a large quantity, which are sold at 50 cts. per pint.

NORTH CAROLINA LANDS FOR SALE.—We refer the reader to the advertisement on another page of a tract of land in North Carolina. We learn that this tract is well deserving attention as being a very handsome and healthy residence, and in the charge of an enterprising farmer could be made one of the best in this country. For particulars, address Mr. Joyner, at his residence, 'Marlboro'.

PHILADELPHIA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Pennsylvania Legislature have granted to the corporation of Philadelphia the privilege of making an annual appropriation to this Society from the City Treasury—the period having expired for which the authority had before been granted.

At a recent meeting of this Society held in Philadelphia, the following proceedings were had, which we copy from the Germantown Telegraph:

The Chair announced "The Winter Feeding of Stock," to be the subject for consideration at the present meeting, and invited from the members generally an expression of their views.

Mr. Harrison had not performed a series of experiments calculated to throw light on the important question involved in the economy of feeding. The object in view ought to be well considered before-hand, whether it was to fatten, to improve the secretion of milk, or to keep our animals in a condition to produce the most perfect progeny, and the kind of food adopted accordingly. Not only was the kind, but the state of the food important. Persons differed as to the proper size of the food; many preferred feeding with cut hay, others recommend hay uncut; he inclined to the latter opinion. Uncut hay was longer retained by the animals, and its nutritious properties were more fully extracted. He believed that this was opposite to the general practice. When hay was fed with ground food, it of course must be cut or it would be wasted.

Mr. A. M. Spangler stated that all good practice, especially in England, was opposed to the view just expressed. The great complaint among stable keepers and omnibus men, was, that they could not obtain machines to cut hay short enough. The finer it was cut, the better, and less was trampled under foot.

Mr. Isaac Pearson had not used much cut hay. He fed with wheat chaff, mixed with cut ruta-baga turnips, and was well satisfied with the result.

Mr Owen Sheridan carefully saved all his wheat chaff and used it mixed with ground corn and cob. Horses sometimes refuse it at first, but they soon became accustomed to it and thrived on it.

Mr. John S. Haines has used ground corn and cob for twelve years. His mill ground the cob finer than the grain. He moistened the mixture before feeding with it.

Dr. Elwyn approved of cut food for both horses and cattle, the cob and grain ground up together. The plump condition of the animals thus treated, attested their perfect health.

Dr. C. R. King objected to the opinion that cut hay was less perfectly digested, because it was not retained by the animal sufficiently long. With ruminating animals this of course was impossible, and even with horses he thought the statement was inadmissible. It was true economy to moisten cut food.

The Chair used Indian corn and cob ground together, soaking before feeding. His practice was to feed horned cattle with a large proportion of roots. He sowed down all his cultivated ground as soon after the removal of the summer crop as possible, with turnips—the flat topped variety—which produced but little leaf. He gathered the turnips, leaves and all, threw the loads in rows on the barn floor and covered them with corn fodder, which in ordinary seasons kept out the frost, rendering earth covering unnecessary. He begins to use from one end of a row, closing up carefully. In course of time the small amount of tops may become a little slimy, but not to an extent sufficient to cause them to be refused by cattle. The advantage of a mixture of roots with the fodder, had always been evident in the fine condition of the stock in the spring.

Mr. S. C. Willitts had always found that turnips stored with the tops on would heat and putrify. He did not regard turnips as a desirable food for stock: but ruta-bagas were much better than the white turnip. The bulk of food was enormous, much of it being water.

Dr. King stated that the turnip contained principles not to be found in corn fodder or dry food. It was sometimes an advantage to enlarge the bulk of food, even if the increase in bulk was not digested.

Mr. Isaac Newton agreed with the last statement. The cob was not nutritious as the corn, yet it was true economy to grind them and feed them together. The grain alone was too heating. The ground cob kept down fever.

The Chair thought that machines for sowing turnip seed ought to be carried or drawn close to the ground, especially in windy weather.

Mr. Coats, of the city, exhibited a working model of his oblique hemp and corn cutter, and explained its mode of action. The machine is intended to run either between the corn rows or around the field. It cuts the stalks and lays them longitudinally behind it. There is one knife which strikes obliquely downward, and is sufficiently powerful to cut several sugar canes or corn-stalks at one blow.

Dr. Elwyn reported the death of Chauncey P. Holcomb, Esq, of Delaware, and after paying a just tribute to the memory of the deceased, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That this society has heard with deep regret, of the death of Chauncey P. Holcomb, Esq., of Delaware. His long, earnest and faithful services in the cause of agriculture have entitled him to the respect of the farmers of the country, and made for him a reputation which will long endure among all who esteem the noble art on which it rests. His liberal and disinterested feelings; his efforts, controlled as they were by a high purpose; his intentions directed ever for the public good—give him a claim to be enrolled among the patriots of his country.

Resolved, That this body deeply sympathise with the State in which he lived, with the friends to whom he was endeared, and those relatives who are left to mourn the loss they will find irreparable.

E. Tayloe, Esq., President of the Rappahannock River Agricultural Society, has issued a Circular to the Vice Presidents of the Society in relation to its interests. He says in the Circular:—"The Corporation of Fredericksburg, with praiseworthy liberality has purchased a suitable lot of sufficient size for the use of the Rappahannock River Agricultural and Mechanical Society. It now devolves upon the members to exert themselves to obtain generous contributions, to enable the Executive Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the Annual Fair. The grounds will need buildings, stalls, and pens, for the permanent use of the Society. To furnish these in a way commensurate with the liberality of the town of Fredericksburg, and with the expectations of the members, will require a large sum; to obtain this in season demands the active efforts of all the officers of the Society."

AMERICAN FARMER.

Baltimore, June 1, 1855.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

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S. SANDS & WORTHINGTON, Publishers,
At the *State Agricultural Society's Rooms*, 128 Baltimore St.
Over the "American Office," 5th door from North St.

CLOSING OF THE 10TH VOLUME.

The present number concludes the tenth volume of the present series of our journal; and in looking back upon the past, we feel that, in view of the many evidences of public favor which we have received from its intelligent patrons, the deep interest they have taken to increase its circulation, and the constant influx of subscribers, we have cause alike to be proud and grateful—*proud* that so many evidences that our labors have been appreciated by the agricultural public, for whom, in all singleness of purpose we have catered with an industry and zeal as indomitable as it was sincere—and *grateful* that our efforts have won the kindly regards of those whose friendship is of intrinsic value, and that our exertions have tended to promote the welfare of the planting and farming interests—those interests upon which the prosperity of the nation rests. Thus impressed, we should not obey the promptings of our heart, did we not, as we now do, return our unfeigned thanks to our numerous friends, who have so generously in the past aided us; and while we tender them this homage of our gratitude, we would pray to be permitted to ask them, not only to continue their countenance and support in the future, individually, and collectively, but to continue also their exertions to add to our subscription list. We would not ask this did we not believe that each and all of our patrons will take pleasure in doing so—did we not feel assured, that the increase in the spread of our journal, would tend to improve the resources of the country, by the spirit of emulation which it will infuse into the minds of its readers—a spirit so well calculated to awaken new impulses and new desires in the minds of those husbandmen, who, as all should, look alike to the improvement of their arable lands, and to their modes of culture.

Now, then, as we shall commence a *new volume* with the issue of next month, the period seems most auspicious, for our present patrons to use their influence with their neighbors and friends, to send in their names as subscribers—and as the amount of subscription is but $1 a year, we are sure that every effort that may be made to this effect, will be crowned with success, as there is no subscriber to our paper, whose neighborhood-influence would not entitle him to it. As a guarantee for the efforts of such of our friends as may respond favorably to this appeal, we pledge ourselves, in advance, to exert all our powers of industry and energy, and what poor talents we may possess, to make the next volume as good, if not better, than its predecessors, and surely we may appeal to the past, as security for the character of our journal in the future. In conclusion, we would remark, that it shall be our sedulous care, as it certainly is, and will be our duty, to watch over the agricultural interests, to promote those interests by every means within our power, and that we shall be constant in our efforts to lay before our readers the earliest information as to all improvements in agricultural tools, and the implements of husbandry, and to point out whatever we may consider calculated to meliorate the soil, or increase its productive capacities.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE FARMER.

The July Number will commence a new volume of the "FARMER" and our printers, Messrs. *Mills & Cox*, are preparing an entire new and beautiful dress for its advent on the occasion. We hope to be able to secure a better quality of paper than we have been using for some time past, and to make other improvements which will show that the *Old Pioneer* of the Agricultural Press is keeping up with the spirit of improvement which is abroad. We call upon the old and long tried friends of this journal, from whom we have received so many and such flattering encomiums upon our journal and our labors, to show in a practical manner the evidence of the faith that is in them, by soliciting from their neighbors and friends, the addition of their names to our subscription list.

☞Our brethren of the press will do us a favor by noticing the forth-coming volume of the "*Farmer*." As patriots, and philanthropists, they cannot but desire to see the progress of improvement in our agriculture—the condition of the country, by the high price of every thing required for the support of man, renders it desirable that a spirit should be more generally diffused among the people, of the improvement and extension of our system of husbandry—and we flatter ourselves that for all practical purposes of this nature, our journal is at least unsurpassed by any other in our country.

ADULTERATION OF GUANO.—We refer the reader to the expose from the "*Country Gentleman*" upon this subject. The farmer cannot be too careful in his purchases of this fertilizer—when we read the expositions made under the authority of Congress, of the adulteration in drugs, liquors, &c., and when we perceive the spirit of speculation which is abroad in almost every commodity intended for the use of man—it is not too much to say, that there is good cause to believe that systematic efforts will be, or have been made, in this country, as well as in England, to manufacture a spurious article to be palmed off upon the public. There are various reports, some of which appear to be well attested, of adulterations in the Peruvian Guano, and we deem it proper, at the present time, to warn farmers to be cautious from whom they make their purchases. There are gentlemen of the highest standing and character for probity engaged in the sale of Guano, upon whom reliance can be placed—but it does not necessarily follow that all who are in the business are of this class. The safest reliance is to obtain as near head quarters as possible. We are aware we expose ourselves to the suspicion of interested motives in making an allusion to this subject, but we have perhaps from false delicacy abstained from saying as much as we should have done on the subject, fearing the motive might be misinterpreted. We engaged in the business to protect the farmer from imposition, and to save him the expense of time and money in visiting the city to make his pur-

chases. Our supplies are direct from the Messrs. Barreda's ships or warehouses, and of the highest marks of the State Inspector. We believe that since our connexion with the business, we have been useful to the agriculturist in this matter, and the charge made for our services, has been remunerative—but the principal end gained by our agency, is *the keeping of the price near the Importer's charges*, by those engaged in the same business, instead of the enormous advance which was formerly made by speculators therein—for this at least, we think we are entitled to the thanks of the consumers, if not their patronage. Baltimore is the most desirable point from which supplies should be obtained. The same vigilance is not likely to be given elsewhere, to prevent frauds. Upon this subject, we copy the following from the Petersburg (Va.) "Southern Farmer," of last month, and could, if necessary, add some details upon the same subject—but of what avail would it be? How many farmers are there, who, if offered the article by parties obtaining their supplies from second, third or fourth hands, at 25 cents less than charged by those who are known to obtain it from the first, will hesitate in making their bargains to save that 25 cents. The above journal, in allusion to the frauds and impositions being practiced in the guano trade, remarks:

"In the purchase of concentrated manures, we would earnstly advise farmers to be cautious of new articles. There is no guano equal to the Peruvian, and none so cheap, even at half price. And that which comes through the Messrs. BARREDA, of Baltimore, is the only Peruvian guano that can be absolutely relied on. One of the firm of Rowlett & Hardy has himself informed us that he would have no confidence in any lot of Peruvian guano purchased in New York, on account of the frequent adulterations to which it has been subjected. We have every confidence in the integrity of the merchants of Petersburg who deal in guano, and have no belief that one of them would knowingly vend an inferior article; but even they may be sometimes imposed on. It is, however, very seldom that we have seen a lot of inferior quality; but we repeat that the guano imported by Messrs. Barreda, with the assurance of having been received direct from them by a respectable house, may be purchased and used with undoubting confidence by our farmers."

One word more—When farmers send their orders by captains of vessels, it would be advisable to see that their instructions are carried out, as to the parties from whom their supplies are purchased.

Two lots of 100 bags each, of guano purporting to be "Chilian," were consigned to this market from Boston and New York in April, as will be seen by reference to the Inspector's report for that month, published in our paper. These lots came highly recommended with a printed circular and analysis signed by Dr. Hayes, State Assayer of Massachusetts, and endorsed by Dr. Mapes, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry, New Ark, N. J. After speaking of its peculiar qualities, they say: "In any application where Peruvian Guano succeeds, this guano may take its place, as its ammonia compound is sufficient in quantity and condition to render it a powerful fertilizer." In a letter subsequently written by the consignor from Boston to his agent here, after receiving the analysis of the Inspector here, (making it comparatively worthless,) he says the Inspector must be in error, as he is assured by Drs. Mapes and Hayes, that it is equal to the best Peruvian, and that it commands a high price in England At the request of the Inspector, the consignee had an analysis made by Dr. Stewart, of this city—the result of which confirmed the analysis of the Inspector, and proved its commercial value to be, as estimated by him, but $13.00 per ton, while it was held at $40, and said to be equal to Peruvian. The result has been that not one pound has been sold in this market, and the exposition made in the "Country Gentleman," confirms the written opinion given the consignee by the Inspector, that neither lot had ever been within 3000 miles of the coast of Chili.

RAIN.—About the middle of May, we had several very refreshing and copious rains, which were indeed most grateful to the parched earth. From our accounts from neighboring districts and States, we have reason to believe it was very general and timely received, for had the drought continued another week, there was reason to fear the most disastrous consequences to the crops—as it is, they have been very generally benefitted, still we have no expectation of seeing an average crop of either wheat, oats or hay—the corn and tobacco of course have to run their chances for the future seasonable weather, and may make good crops.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A correspondent from Monroe county, Tennessee, enquires whether we can inform him of any thing which will destroy the weed called *Dock*, which is taking possession of his best meadow—also old field sedge grass. We know of nothing that will destroy the *dock*, but frequent cultivation in crops which require summer working. That is the remedy too for sedge grass. In the region of country with which we are familiar, the old field sedge lands when well subdued by two or three years of cultivation are very susceptible of improvement, by clover and plaster—a method of great economy, and of the highest value where applicable. The application of *quick-lime* is perhaps always useful, on such lands, and sometimes essential. When not essential, it may be useful, in hastening the process of what is termed *weathering*, that is the process of decomposing and bringing into action the inert matter of the soil, by exposure, for a length of time to atmospheric influence.

A practical farmer of Northumberland co., Va., writes us of a very profitable crop of corn, made by him the past season, and thus describes his *modus operandi*: "The land was *well ploughed, well harrowed, and well rolled.* It was marked very shallow, and planted with plenty of good seed; *as soon as the corn was up*, the cultivators were started, passing over the field rapidly, and as soon as over, starting the second time. When the second operation was over, six plows were started, and the rows entirely plowed out as they went, The field was finished by the 15th of June, when the corn was not more than a foot high. I have laid by corn as early as the 13th June, but be it remembered, that all must be in perfect order at the time." The practise of our correspondent agrees mainly with that of some of the best cultivated districts of the country. The thorough preparation of the ground and early and quick working are, we have no doubt, points of main consequence in the cultivation of the corn crop, and we believe the practice of continuing the working to the usual late period, a very bad one, but necessary on account of imperfect early cultivation. The variable success of close planting is we think owing to difference of culture in

this respect. The *firing* so general in closely planted corn is the result rather of the necessity of running close to the corn and destroying the great mass of roots, at an advanced period of its growth, than the want of air or moisture. Closely planted corn *must* be "laid by" early, and to be laid by early, must have early and quick working.

Our friend at Amherst Court House, Va., is informed that the running to seed this spring of his "early Yorks," is owing to too early planting or to their advancing too rapidly in the Fall. We believe skilful gardeners have some difficulty in so regulating the matter as to prevent this result.

In reply to our correspondent from Henrico co., Va., we think the small quantity of lime supplied by successive applications of super phosphate would not be sufficient for a soil deficient in lime. Opinions are tending however to much smaller applications of lime, than have been heretofore thought necessary. The distinguished geologist, Professor Emmons, thinks the presence of one half of one per cent in the soil sufficient, and some of the most fertile soils do not contain more than one tenth of one per cent. Yet even this small amount, supposing the soil to be entirely destitute, which is perhaps very rarely the case, it would require twenty-five bushels to supply, and the difficulty of so thorough a mixing with the soil as would give it its full effect would make a larger application necessary.

The suggestion of a friend in Somerset co., as to his mode of treating the dew-berry is a good one, we hope he will try it, and inform us as to his success; we are under the impression that either of the field peas will grow with oats, and the Shinney is a valuable variety. We think they are not now to be had in Baltimore.

THE PROSPECT OF THE WHEAT CROP.

It is by no means an agreeable duty, but we are constrained to say, that the accounts of the daily press as to the promising condition of the growing crop of wheat, are not at all sustained by information gathered by us, with much care. There are sections of country which were favored with rains in September, which enabled farmers to seed early. From such sections where the lands were rich or well manured, our accounts are favourable, and the prospect very fair. But taking the State of Maryland and the neighbouring States generally, a very large proportion of the crop, owing to the prevalent drought, was sown late, on badly prepared grounds, followed by unpropitious weather, and a hard winter. The consequence is, there was an unusual quantity of wheat *winter killed*, and that all of the late seeding which survived, was so poorly rooted as to be seriously affected by want of rain and the high blighting winds, and incapable of withstanding the attacks of fly, chinch bug, and other enemies which have been abundant in many sections. It is our candid belief that there was not at the opening of spring, wheat enough upon the ground to make a full crop, with the most favourable spring season, and that to this time (18th of May,) that season has been very unfavourable to that portion of the crop (the late seeding) which stood most in need of good weather.

The idea of the large excess of wheat sown, over previous crops, is a mere inference from the high price, without taking into consideration other facts bearing upon the subject. The season, as before mentioned was such as to make it generally impossible, until a very late period, to sow even the ordinary crop, and with the prevailing objection to late seeding, and the high price of seed, it is not to be presumed that much excess was sown, even in cases where it was practicable. Besides this, it will be apparent to every one, familiar with the routine of farming operations, that the farmer cannot ordinarily increase the breadth of land sown to any one crop, without disturbing his whole plan of "rotation," and disarranging his scheme of operations for years. This makes a serious objection to such increase. Moreover, he increases the extent sown, at the immediate expense of some other crop which he cultivates already, only in such proportions as his domestic necessities, or its market value make it expedient. He would therefore only be tempted to increase his crop of wheat, in case of its being at seeding time, likely to bear a price very much *out of proportion* to other farm products. This was not the case. On the contrary, it will be remembered that about that time, the accounts which had prevailed of the shortness of the wheat crop, were most industriously represented by the press, as having been greatly exaggerated, and these representations operated with the other causes mentioned, to restrain any excess of seeding.

We should be glad to be able to say that the prospect of the crop is a flattering one, but we have no such belief.

NOTES OF A TALK WITH A FARMER.

Mr. Hewlett, of Baltimore County, whose suggestions we always receive with pleasure as the result of intelligent observation in connection with highly successful practice, tells us that he is in the habit of sowing Orchard grass, Timothy, and Clover seeds together, for hay and pasture, and never fails with these to get a good turf. He has a very high opinion of the value of orchard grass in connexion with clover, for hay and for its abundant after-math. The Timothy, cut with these, does not attain its full perfection, but this is compensated in a measure by its larger growth. He sows in the fall a peck of timothy, and a bushel of orchard grass seeds, and in spring another bushel of orchard grass, and a peck of clover seed. This is very heavy seeding, but is thought to be justified by the great importance of ensuring a thorough "setting" of the ground. Mr. H. cuts his hay when about two thirds of the clover blossoms have turned brown.

He bears emphatic testimony to the statement of the President of our State Society as to the economy of corn and cob-meal. He *knows* by careful trial of it for years past, that the saving is 33⅓ per cent. as compared with corn unground. He feeds the meal dry.

Mr. H. is an earnest advocate of early seeding of wheat,—sows in September without fear of fly. He has failed to make a full crop but once in a number of years, and that owing to late seeding made necessary by drought; that year he averaged *only* twenty eight bushels to the acre. *Thirty-five* is his usual crop. While we of course have perfect reliance upon the accuracy of this and other statements of the sort we sometimes publish, we give them to some of our brethren with a good deal of the feeling of the Irishman who wrote to his friends in the old country, that he got meat to eat *three times* a week, fearing if he told them the whole truth, that he had it *every day*, they wouldn't *believe* it. We are not disposed to stir up our friends of weak faith to "doubt-

ful disputations," but the truth must be told. *Thirty bushels* of wheat *can* be made with as much certainty as *fifteen* are now ordinarily made on the same surface.

Mr. Hewlett is perhaps the only farmer in Maryland who has for years made the cultivation of the field Pea as a fertilizer, a part of his rotation. He sows two bushels of peas per acre, on the previous year's corn field about the 10th of May, and ploughs the vines down about the 15th of August, sowing his wheat upon the pea fallow. It is *this pea-fallow* from which he gets the crops mentioned above. We have no doubt from the interest excited by our remarks on the subject of the field pea in previous numbers, and from other indications, that this valuable plant is coming into favor with Maryland Farmers, and we have such a conviction of its value, that we shall not fail by every means, to encourage its adoption, especially upon all light lands and those not highly improved. An intelligent friend from the lower section of Anne Arundel County tells us, that he sowed peas last summer on his corn field when he laid his corn by, and that his wheat upon that land is now better than his clover fallow. His experience with peas for several seasons, convinced him that a good crop of vines turned down, is a better dressing for wheat than the usual quantity of guano.

We received from our Baltimore Co. friend likewise, some suggestions on Strawberry culture. One was that his experience does not sustain the common opinion that it is necessary every two or three years to make new beds. He has a bed now in full perfection which has been bearing fruit for eight years. The subject of strawberries is an interesting one at this season, and as we are not sure that we have a distinct recollection of his views we feel the value of his very considerate suggestion, that we should make a personal inspection of his beds. We consider it a public duty to make diligent inquiry and to arm ourself with such *special* proof of the quality of these strawberries, as will convince gainsayers.—That is a homely but sensible old adage, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it," tho' a *very* free rendering of the latin *De gustibus non disputandum*, it suggests an excellent "end of controversy."

INFORMATION OF THE GROWING CROPS.

We earnestly call the attention of the members of the Executive Committee of the State Society, and other gentlemen who feel an interest in the matter, to the recommendation of the Board on the subject of furnishing us with carefully collected information of the condition of the growing crops, of their respective districts: a little attention to this matter on the part of a few intelligent gentlemen of each county, would furnish us with the most reliable information, and enable us to correct the impressions made by the numerous floating paragraphs in the papers.

This information as regards the wheat crop is particularly to be desired immediatly after harvest, as to the condition in which the crop may have been secured, and as to the extent to which it may have suffered with rust and from other causes. And again by the 20th of August, when a considerable portion of the threshing will have been done, a nearer approximation may be made. Let Farmers remember that the present high prices have not been realised by them, but by Speculators whose representations induced them to sell last fall.

SWEET AND SOUR.

The *Ohio Farmer* in a paragraph on adapting crops to soils, says, "do not attempt to grow sugar cane on sheep sorrel lands." A very intelligent correspondent of the *American Farmer* in Lexington Parish, Louisiana, speaking of a peculiar soil, says, "the sugar cane it produces is superb, yet I find a great deal of *oxalic* sorrel growing in it." This latter is a *fact*, the advice of the *Ohio Farmer* is the result of theorising upon preconceived notions. If farmers would be more careful in their observation of facts, and more ready to communicate them, many of these notions would be corrected. The attention which we have recently directed to this subject of *sour soils*, will, we have reason to believe, result in the conclusion which our correspondent arrives at, "that the cause of sweetness, or acidity, or bitterness, is *in the plant*, and not in the soil." And that it would be just as philosophical to apply lime to the roots of a tree bearing sour apples, with the expectation of having the fruit made sweet, as to expect to change the character of the plant by that operation. The same fountain will not send forth sweet water and bitter, but the same soil will produce sweet fruit and bitter. Who plants his trees of acid fruit in one orchard, and sweet fruit in another? We give the portion of our correspondent's letter, bearing on the subject, and should be glad if we felt authorized to use his name:

"I observed in your last number, a discussion on the subject of the products and corrections of acid soils. The distinction made by Mr. Ruffin between *sheep sorrel* and *horse sorrel*, I do not understand. They are both very *sour*, and that is the point of the controversy.

"Permit me to state a fact which may conflict with the theory of that gentleman. There are several shell banks on the estate I cultivate. These lands or banks, are found on the borders of streams and swamps, and are composed of cockle shells, generally entire. All around them the soil is black, and remarkably productive.

"This soil must abound in carb. and phosphate of lime. The sugar cane it produces is superb. Yet, I find a great deal of *oxalic* sorrel growing in it—frequently in the midst of a mass of half decomposed shells. That is to say, the land is equally productive of the *sweet* and *the sour*; is very rich, and full of lime.

"The natural conclusion from these facts, is this: that a good soil is ready to produce *all kinds* of vegetation; that the cause of sweetness, or acidity, or bitterness is in the plant,—not in the soil, or in any one of its component parts; and that the presence of alkaline substances is essential to the proper development of plants abounding in acids."

We give also the view of another esteemed correspondent from Goochland, Va:

"I am looking with some interest to the discussion of the lime and sorrel question. My own view is, that the effects of lime are to be explained on physiological, rather than chemical principles—and moreover, that lime is only a particular form of a general influence, alkalinity, which aids indirectly in the process. Viewing the subject in this light, a principle is obtained which is susceptible of general application, and not confined to those particular spots where the lime is to be found."

NORTH CAROLINA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Judge *Ruffin*, of N. C., has consented to deliver the Annual Address before this society, at the next exhibition to be held in October next.

MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Hon. Judge *E. F. Chambers*, of Kent county, Md., has been solicited by the Board of Managers to deliver the Annual Address before the Maryland State Agricultural Society, at its next meeting. The Judge was invited last year, to deliver the address, but had previously made engagements which rendered it out of his power to meet the wishes of the Society. There are few men in this country better qualified for such a task than Judge Chambers. Enthusiastic in his devotion to agriculture and the interests connected therewith—a practical as well as scientific farmer, devoting much of his time and means in the development of the agricultural resources of the State—"trying all things, and holding fast to that which is good"—he is well qualified by long experience and the practical results of that experience, to enlighten the minds of his brother farmers, and to impart that solid information which is so important to guide them in the pathway to success.

It will be seen by the list of Premiums, which we present with this number, that some new features have been added to the programme for the next exhibition. Each day, it will be observed, trials of speed will be made on the horse track, which will add very much to the interest of the occasion. To encourage the importation of fine stock, it will be seen that handsome premiums are offered for the various breeds of Horses, Cattle, &c., the same as heretofore offered for sheep.

The meeting evinced a most excellent spirit, and it was determined that the utmost efforts shall be made to surpass all preceding exhibitions. Great care has been taken in the selection of Judges, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the gentlemen who have been selected for this important duty, will respond to the wishes of the Society, in the acceptance of their appointment.

The last Wheat and Corn Crops.—Our readers will remember the publications which were made last year by the commercial press, of the excellency of those crops—and how different has been the result!—and we now see, in the face of the unprecedented high prices of grain of every description in the West, and of the suffering of man and beast from the shortness of the supplies, publications made of the immense stores in that region, now waiting transportation to the East! At St. Louis, Mo. on the 2d ult., 600 bushels white wheat were sold at $2 per bushel, the highest price, the St. Louis Republican remarks, ever obtained in that market. In our own State, we note the fact, obtained from the clerk of the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Co. at Frederick, that between the 1st of October and 1st May, upwards of 53,000 bushels of Indian Corn have been received at that depot *from Baltimore*,—showing how completely the stock had been reduced in that, one of the very richest agricultural districts of Maryland.

Davy's Devon Herd Book.—We refer stock raisers to the advertisement on another page, of the publication of a Herd Book, in which American breeders will be enabled to record their animals for a reasonable sum, and at the same time receive all the records as to English breeders, and their animals in the same volume. We trust that a liberal subscription will be extended to a work destined to be of so much value to the American stock raiser.

REPORTED CHANGE IN THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY FOR THE SALE OF GUANO—AND CHANGE OF PRICE.

One of our city papers, during the past month, announced, upon what it deemed "*indisputable authority*," that the Peruvian Government contemplated a radical change in the agency for their guano, and that a reduction in the price would at the same time take place. The particularity of the details given, induced many not acquainted with the relations in which the present Agents, Messrs. Barreda & Bro. stand with their government, to believe in the truthfulness of the statements so confidently put forth, and these gentlemen felt called upon to respond to the publication, denying in toto the correctness of the authority, or the probability of the change in price—Had we space to spare, we would give all the communications which appeared on the subject; but it must suffice for us to say, that it appears that there was no proper foundation for the report, and that so far from a reduction taking place in price, there are grounds to believe that there is much more likelihood of an advance before the fall—and we learn from the communication of the charge d'affaires of Peru, which we subjoin, and from other reliable source, *that in no event will the price be reduced.* Indeed, we have reason to believe, that were the instructions of the Peruvian Government, which are now here, carried out to the letter, the price would be advanced forthwith.

[TRANSLATION.]

NEW YORK, 15th May, 1855.

Messrs. F. Barreda & Brother, Baltimore:

GENTLEMEN:—The Baltimore Patriot of 12th inst. brings an article which I have seen copied in several Journals of this city, in which it is stated that the Peruvian Government intends to change the agency now established for the sale of guano, and to reduce its price to $45 per ton.

You are hereby authorized to state before the public, without any loss of time, that there is not a single word of truth in the views attributed to the Peruvian Government in said article on the subject. The importation and sale of Peruvian Guano will be effected as heretofore and under the same arrangements, and if there were to be any alteration, it will only be in the advancing of the price up to the figure that may be considered prudent by the Government, its owners, whose views are not to extend the consumption here or elsewhere, but to sell it at the price required by the value of its compounds, and the good effects it produces on the soil.

I repeat again, that it is of the utmost importance to make known the untruthfulness of the statement in the Patriot, and that the price of Guano will in no event be reduced by the government of Peru.

I am, your obedient servant,

J. Y. DE OSMA, Charge d'Affaires of Peru.

Seeds from the Patent Office.—We have received a few small packages of the following seeds for distribution:—Double bearing Sanfoin; Improved King Philip or brown Corn; Woolly leaved Holcus Lanatus; Tiger Lettuce; Black Oats from Brie; Pearl Beans without strings; Navet Turnips; Alfalfa, or Chilian Clover, from Chili; White Sugar Beet; Chickory; Fluke Potatoes from England.

This variety of Potato is very productive in England; bears late planting, and has never been known to be attacked by disease. It is recommended to plant the product for two years in succession at least, if it should not succeed well the first or second.

TURNIP CULTURE.

Our correspondent, whose letter on Turnips as a fertilizer, we publish, asks our advice on the subject. Some of our chemical friends tell us that Turnips are a mere compound of wood and water, and fit food for neither man nor beast. We suppose that we must submit to authority as to the "wood and water," but we deny the inference. It is a preparation of those simple substances which experience has fully shown is not to be despised by either the beasts that perish or the lords of creation. It may illustrate the wisdom of Frenchmen in the attention they pay to the cultivation of the art of cooking. We have heard of a Frenchman down South, who when scarce of available material for the "cuisine" was wont to regale an occasional friend with most delicious "Ragouts" made of the *clippings* of the ears of his "*live* stock," a much more promising material, we think, than *old fence rails and water*, which an earnest friend once pronounced a fit substitute for this Root. But there is a great deal in cooking, and Dame Nature gives us a good lesson in her way of fixing up wood and water after the fashion of a Turnip.

The culture of the Turnip it is well known was the ground work of the New Husbandry of England and Scotland. "The introduction of turnips into the husbandry of Britain," says the New Edinburg Encyclopedia, "occasioned one of those revolutions in rural art which are constantly occurring among husbandmen, and, though the revolution came on with slow and gradual steps, yet it may now be viewed as completely and thoroughly established. Before the introduction of this Root, it was impossible to cultivate light soils successfully, or to devise suitable rotations for cropping them with advantage. It was also a difficult task to support live stock through the winter and spring months: and as for feeding and fatting cattle and sheep for market, during these inclement seasons, the practice was hardly thought of, and still more rarely attempted."

"Few of our farmers," says Judge Buel, "are probably apprised of the fact, that English beef and mutton, so highly extolled, and of which John Bull so vauntingly boasts—and perhaps no people have better—is mostly winter fattened, without the addition of any sort of grain, upon *roots and straw*."

The especial value of the Turnip to British Husbandry consisted to be sure, in its furnishing a fallow crop to cover the naked fallow which preceded the wheat crop. We have our more valuable crops of Corn, Tobacco, and Cotton, answering this purpose. But the experience of Great Britain in improving her soil and in the feeding and fattening of stock, has established for this Root a character far above what might be inferred from its chemical analysis. Professor Norton puts the amount of solid matter of the Turnip at 10 per cent.—90 per cent being water. He values the crop highly however, in consideration of the very large quantity that may be raised to the acre. He thinks twenty-five tons, or about nine hundred bushels, not an uncommon crop for good land.

While we have no idea that the Turnip will ever be substituted to a great extent for our Indian Corn, to some extent there is no doubt it might be introduced to advantage, as winter food for stock. We think it (we mean the Ruta Baga,) the best Root for farm use, taking into consideration the ease with which it is cultivated, the rapidity with which it covers the ground, the late period at which it may be sown, and its hardiness in withstanding frost.

Nor do we see any reason why it may not be used as suggested by our correspondent. The qualities which give it value as food, would fertilize the land, and if allowed to remain till Spring, the seed stems when in bloom, would in addition to the Roots, furnish a large mass of vegetable matter—the cost of seed per acre would be small, the time of occupying the land short, and the growth made principally at a period—late in the Fall and early in Spring—when other vegetation is for the most part at rest.

TURNIPS AS A FERTILIZER.

To the Editors of the American Farmer.

I desire to know your opinion as to the value of turnips as a fertilizer. Suppose that after a crop of oats or wheat has been saved, the land should be ploughed up and seeded in turnips, say about the latter part of July, and the turnips allowed to remain in the ground all winter without being used in any manner; would they not, when turned in the next Spring, afford increased fertility to the land for the growth of a crop of corn?—and especially, if to the turnips so turned under, there should be added a moderate dressing of lime?

Is not the action of turnips, as a fertilizer, similar to that of clover? Belonging to the same *leguminous* class, are they not essentially similar in their nature? If so, would it not be well for those who cannot readily procure a stand of clover on their land, to cultivate turnips as a substitute for it? May they not be even better than clover? Their growth is generally much more certain, and a crop of turnips may be made in less than a year, whilst about two years are required to bring clover to perfection. Turnips would be but an intervening crop, and in order to perfect it, it is not necessary that the land should lie out at all, but being sown after saving the crop of oats or wheat, it would be turned under the next spring preparatory to putting in corn.

In order to insure a good growth of turnips for the purpose of improving the soil (assuming them to be well adapted to that purpose,) would not the farmer be compensated by sowing with them a moderate quantity of guano? Would not the guano, thus applied, pay better and more permanently than the same quantity applied directly to the corn crop?

Are not turnips regarded in England as a fertilizer and employed as a means of renovating the soil; and if such is their effect *there*, why may it not be the same *here*? It is true that in England sheep husbandry is a concomitant of turnip culture; but the fact that the two generally go together can by no means be regarded as evidence of a want of value in turnips as an efficient fertilizer. In this respect, are they not like clover,—furnishing the means of improvement to both stock and soil?

I have never tried the system indicated in this letter; but I intend to do so, unless your better judgment should suggest some serious objections to it that have never yet occurred to me.

LARGE PREMIUM.—*The Joint Worm.*—The executive committe of the Virginia State Agricultural Society has offered a premium of one thousand dollars, for the discovery and successful use of an efficient practicable and generally available plan for preventing the depradations of the joint worm.

ALTERNATION OF CROPS.

The obsolete idea of 'resting' land, was substituted by the practice of 'alternation' of crops, and this substitution constituted a great step in the progress of agriculture. This alternation or rotation of crops, the great Liebig pronounces in his new work—"The one constraint resting still upon agriculture." "The single problem," he says, "worthy of scientific agriculture at the present time, is to establish in place of a change of crop, a change or succession of manures, which shall enable the farmer to grow on each of his fields that crop, which under the circumstances will be most profitable." When this problem shall be solved, we may look for another revolution in agriculture. In the mean time, it will not be amiss to revert to the principles on which the alternating system is based, that we may know at least just where we are at present, and see that we make the best use of the lights we already have. These principles as laid down by Chaptal, are

"1. All plants exhaust the soil."

"2. All plants do not exhaust the soil equally."

"3. Plants of different kinds do not exhaust the soil in the same manner."

"4. All plants do not restore to the soil, the same quantity or quality of manure."

"5. All plants do not feed the soil equally."

From these principles he draws the following conclusions:

"1. That, however well prepared a soil may be, it cannot nourish a long succession of crops without being exhausted."

"2. Each harvest impoverishes the soil to a certain extent, depending upon the degree of nourishment, which it restores to the earth."

"3. The cultivation of spindle roots, ought to succeed that of running and superficial roots."

"4. It is necessary to avoid returning too soon, to the cultivation of the same or to analogous kind of vegetables, in the same soil."

"5. It is very unwise to allow two kinds of plants, which admit of the ready growth of weeds among them, to be raised in succession."

"6. Those plants which derive their principal support from the soil, should not be sown, except when the soil is sufficiently provided with manure."

"7. When the soil exhibits symptoms of exhaustion from successive harvests, the cultivation of those plants that restore most to the soil must be resorted to."

The alternating system is based upon these principles, and is economical and profitable in proportion as it adheres to them. It assumes, that all plants drawing more or less their nourishment from the soil, the soil must be occasionally replenished with supplies of manure. A certain class of plants called *culmiferous* are supposed most rapidly to exhaust supplies—this class embraces wheat, rye, oats, barley, Indian corn, cotton, &c. They are particularly exhausting while maturing their seeds. A judicious system should not allow these crops to follow each other closely or frequently, and the common practice of cultivating Indian corn, wheat and oats, in quick succession is only allowable on lands of a high character, and when the invaluable qualities of the clover crop are faithfully used as an improver.

Another class of plants, *leguminous*, embrace strictly speaking, only peas, beans and pulse, but for convenience are made to include all those which are usually called *ameliorating*, but more properly *less exhausting*. These plants are less exhausting, because some of them draw supplies of nourishment from a lower stratum of soil than that traversed by the roots of wheat, corn, &c.—their long tap roots running deep into the soil. Some because their broad leaves exposed to the atmosphere draw from it a portion of their nourishment. Some because they shade the soil, and all, because ordinarily they do not go to seed. The clover is the most ameliorating, because it combines all these qualities to a greater degree than any other, except perhaps the field pea. These plants requiring also, the most of them, deep and thorough cultivation, and their roots penetrating deeply—ameliorate the soil in this manner.

The alternating system is not complete, and answers by no means the ends of which it is capable, without the introduction of the cultivated grasses. They are cultivated at very little cost—they enlarge the variety of the plants, and promote the economy of plant feeding. They cover the soil, protecting it from the waste of the sun and frost. Their roots accumulate in the soil, a large supply of mould for future use. And they afford much material for manure. Thus supplying at a cheap rate several important requisites of a complete system of alternation. As our agriculture improves, there is no doubt, it will embrace a much more extended cultivation of the grasses.

The researches of science are throwing much light upon facts long familiar to intelligent observers. While these latter had observed that different classes of plants exhausted the soil in different degrees, and that where the soil refused to grow those of one character, another sort might still be profitably cultivated; the facts are accounted for in the analysis of the ashes of these plants. These analysis distinctly show the different degrees in which different substances are consumed by plants. The grains of all kinds show a very large per centage of *phosphoric acid*, equal to nearly one-half of the amount of ash—a large per centage of *potash* and *magnesia*, and the straw *silica* to a large amount. The ash of potatoes, turnips and plants of that character, gives *potash* in much larger amount than the former, *Phosphoric acid* and *magnesia* in smaller amounts, but more *lime* and *sulphuric acid*. Hay gives on analysis, more *lime* than the others, much *potash* though less than the others, and much silica. The ashes of all classes contain the various mineral elements, viz: sulphuric acid, phosphoric acid, chlorine, lime, magnesia, potash, soda, silica, iron, but in various, and many of them in very small proportions.

The investigations so diligently pursued by men of science, with reference to the nutrition of plants, may result in developments which will realise the idea of Liebig, and take off from agriculture the "constraint" of alternation. Until this shall be done, however, the diligent application of the precepts lying at the foundation of the system, is to the practical man the surest guarantee of success.

The Piedmont Va. Whig says :—"The Joint Worm, we understand, has made its appearance in this vicinity, in various localities, within the last few days. We have heard too, that an insect which prays upon it and which is perhaps destined to put a stop to its ravages, has also come to light. Will said insect, in that case, be entitled to the Agricultural Society's reward?"

A BRIEF REPLY TO MR. RUFFIN.

To the Editors of the American Farmer.

Facts closely observed, and experiments carefully conducted and often repeated, are items of information, which the farmer every where most needs as the basis of a rational and enlightened agriculture. Theories in agriculture are a sort of *bagatelle* with which scientific men may occasionally amuse themselves and *farmers* of a speculative turn, but seldom much to the edification or profit of any one;—and in no pursuit to which the mental and physical energies of man have been directed is the practice of *theorising* to be so much deprecated and discountenanced, as in agriculture. There are in farming, as in every other science, many (so called) *false facts*, and much *false experience*, and the former have often been made the *basis* and the latter the *props* of many a plausible and beautiful but fallacious and hurtful theory. The fallacy and evil of which is well illustrated by an anecdote I have heard told of the *facts and experience* of a young Englishman—a medical student who went to Paris to complete his professional education, when it so happened he was called to attend a Frenchman with Typhoid Fever. The disease was treated scientifically, and the man of course drugged *secundum artem*, and to his heart's content, but without any apparent abatement in the fever, and death seemed inevitable. One day, however, the patient expressing a wish to eat some salt herring, he was humanely gratified, and—post hoc, sed non propter hoc—the man, much to the surprise of his Physician, soon got well, who immediately recorded, in his note book as follows: "*Typhoid Fever—a Frenchman cured by eating salt herring.*" Soon after this he went back to England and there encountering the same disease in a robustious Englishman, he confidently administered his new remedy—salt herring—and this patient in a little while died. A note was now made as follows: "*Typhoid Fever—an Englishman ate freely of salt herring, and soon died,*"—and immediately following was an N. B. to this effect: "*In Typhoid Fever salt herring cures a Frenchman, but kills an Englishman.*" But in this place it is proper to remark, that the undersigned does not wish in any thing he may say to be regarded as the "censor" of Mr. Ruffin, nor indeed of any one else: and it is to be regretted that Mr. R. should have felt himself personally aggrieved at having his theoretical opinion respectfully and modestly controverted; and unless indeed he applies the epithet of "censor" to any one who may venture in any manner, however deferential, to question his views, I can see no appropriateness in this application of the word.

It will be manifest to every one familiar with Mr. Ruffin's essay on calcareous manures, and who has ever read the article above alluded to by the undersigned—that in his two articles recently published in this paper, Mr. R. has not only retracted from his own original position, but endeavors to place me in a position I never occupied. It will be recollected that he consumes many pages of his book in the labored but abortive attempt to prove by dint of ingenious *logic, that all soils growing sheep sorrel, broom grass and old field pine, &c., are poisoned with an acid*, and upon this assumption, which is only so much more *guessing* on his part, he proceeds to state and establish the monstrous proposition that such a soil "*cannot be durably and profitably improved by putrescent manures without making it calcareous.*" These are the plain and naked propositions, I attempted to controvert; but now Mr. Ruffin, as if conscious of his inability to maintain these positions, very adroitly shifts his attitude—throws himself behind a battery of some thirty odd of the Farmers of Prince George, and there backed by his friends, challenges me to *assail or deny his position, that* "Liming in the proper manner and quantity will destroy sorrel and prevent its return." Why, don't Mr. Ruffin, and every one else who read my article, know that so far from *denying this fact*, he so defiantly proclaims, I did in the very outset admit this peculiar action of lime on sorrel soils, in indirectly (tho' not by neutralizing acids) eradicating sorrels, and in these explicit words, "*It is not to be doubted that liming causes sorrels to disappear, &c.*" for which a brief but clear explanation was given. These thirty odd gentlemen all agree in their testimony that lime destroys sorrel, or in other words that it causes it to disappear, but do they render Mr. Ruffin any assistance in the dilemma his hypothesis that sorrel soils are acid, involves him? Will they depose in his behalf that lime destroys sorrel by simply neutralizing free *oxalic acid* in the soil, when they have no sort of proof from Mr. R. or any one else, that there is any acid in such a soil, but on the contrary, the positive assurance from the most reliable Chemists, that in point of fact, *it does not exist in this or any* soil. These are the questions, and the only ones I was controverting, and Professor Johnston, who is considered good authority on all questions in analytical chemistry, speaking of the acids of sorrels (and he makes no distinction) says: "It (oxalic acid) is not known to exist in the soil; or in the waters which reach the roots of plants; when it is found in living vegetables therefore, *it must like the other substances they contain, have been formed or elaborated in the interior of the plant itself.*" Just so—and Dr. Dana and others also testify much in the same way—and Mr. Ruffin himself admits as much—and *he* even goes so far as to say that one of the sorrels (wood sorrel) "*will grow on a soil calcareous to excess,*" but seeing that this fact conflicts with his acid theory, next sets about explaining it away; and how do you suppose he does it? By showing that wood sorrel is *botanically* a different plant from sheep sorrel, still the fact remains that both plants abound in one and the same acid—and I submit that the mere circumstance that one is a "*trefoil and pod bearing plant,*" and the other "has leaves like narrow and barbed arrow points," is quite immaterial; and since, according to Mr. Ruffin's own showing, one of them cannot by possibility obtain any acid directly from the soil, neither by *analogy*, is it at all probable that the other does, and whilst the assertion of Professor Johnston, that the acid of all the sorrels are "elaborated in the interior of the plants themselves," is doubtless entirely correct, it is probable that all the other vegetable acids—the various sugars, and the other organic compounds, in general, are "elaborated in the interior of plants," by a process purely vital, and peculiar to the plant, with all which, the soil has nothing, directly, whatever to do. Mr. Ruffin seems to have a mortal hatred for the *old field* pine. It is, in his opinion, an everlasting and special breeder of *acids*. As soon as it springs up it begins to "*pour its leprous distilment,*" on the soil, and speedily the whole earth becomes surcharged with the *deadly poison*. Alas! into what fatal mistakes, does an erroneous theory often involve us. Many of these very soils, when the pines

have accomplished their work of renovation, are the finest tobacco lands we have, as thousands would testify; and there are not many, I incline to think, who will admit, that the beautiful arrangement by which the pine soils enrich themselves from the falling of the leaves of the pine is merely one for *acidifying and poisoning* the soil. But to return to Mr. R's theory for a moment. Will any one in Middle Virginia endorse Mr. Ruffin's assumption that a soil which permits sorrel to grow, "*cannot be durably and profitably improved by putrescent manures, without previously making it calcareous,*" when there are hundreds of persons in Virginia and elsewhere who know the contrary to be true, and that without liming, as Mr. Ruffin proposes, or the use of any other *antacids*, they have been able to bring their sorrel soils up to a very high state of improvement. Facts like these in the possession of thousands, are sufficient to settle this question forever, and really I had thought it so settled an axiom in logic that one single well established fact is sufficient to discredit and overthrow any new hypothesis however ingeniously constructed, that Mr. R. would yield this point. But in justice to him it is proper to state that he objects to having extended the application of his theory to other soils, than those of Tide Water, Virginia. Yet I must contend that if it is necessary to the growth of sheep sorrel in his section that the soil shall contain oxalic acid, there appears no good reason why the same kind of sorrel should not require the same kind of acid in soils elsewhere.

It would be easy to give a somewhat plausible explanation of this peculiar action of lime in eradicating sorrels from the soils of Tide Water Virginia, without having to assume *hypothetically*, the presence in such soils of any free oxalic acid, which it is not probable exists there any more than it does elsewhere. It is known for instance that the acid in sheep sorrel and in other sorrels is in combination with *potash*, and that such plants do not particularly require a calcareous soil—clover, however, must have a good deal of both potash and lime, or it will not flourish. It is known moreover, that when sorrel grows to the exclusion of clover, it indicates a soil somewhat deficient in *available* lime. Now good quick lime in many ways—and better than carbonate of lime, or ordinary marls—readily supplies the salines necessary for the vigorous growth of clover, and it being a more hardy plant than sorrel, soon as a necessary consequence, eats out, as we sometimes say, the sorrel.

But after all it makes no sort of difference practically, I confess, with him who resides in the lime region, whether Mr. R's theory be true or false—since the result of liming there is uniformly satisfactory, and that is all that concerns the farmer, and this may account for the ready reception of Mr. R's in that locality—but if the farmer of Middle Virginia where no marl can be had, and good slacked lime as in many localities costs from 25 to 30 cents per bushel, is induced to believe that his sorrel soil is acid, nor "*cannot be durably and profitably improved by putrescent manures without previously making it calcareous,*" he will assuredly do one of two things, either of which would show a bad judgment—he would either cease altogether to improve his land by applying putrescent manures, and by many other available and certain means of improvement, or he would incur such an expense in liming, and often where his land did not need it—as would bankrupt him for life.

The foregoing remarks conclude all I have to say on the subject under discussion. If they fail to convince any one, perhaps I should fail even were I to write more, and besides, your readers, Messrs. Editors, are by this time—no doubt—chemically speaking, *super saturated* with lime.

P. B. PENDLETON.

Louisa Co., Va., *April* 23d, 1855.

P. S. A few parting words only, Messrs. Editors, to your respected correspondent T. G. C. It is manifest he does me injustice (unintentional no doubt) when he says, I denied *his proposition* that "*lime when mingled with the soil does not remain uncombined.*" I never denied this. I only denied his assumption as I understood it, that lime, *under any ordinary exposure such as the farmer subjects it to, whether in the soil or out of it—whether mingled with the sand in a wall or the sand in a soil*, combines *immediately* with the carbonic acid of the atmosphere, and forms carbonate of lime. I will not fall out with our scientific friend, nor "*take him to task,*" as he expresses it, about chemical *names*; but if he will only trouble himself to refer to works on agricultural chemistry, he will find that chemists even, often use the word lime *generically*, just as I did, and as farmers every where do, and he does himself, and mean by it lime in any and in no particular form. The misunderstanding between us as to this matter, and about the presence of caustic lime in a soil arose probably from the fact that he was rather *hypercritical*. But did it seem to our friend that in stating the composition of a "*sort of Feldspar*" he had examined, he fell into an error himself very similar to the one pointed out in my communication? And is he indeed in earnest when he denies that "*any soluble salt of lime can exist in the soil?*" If he will only refer to any standard work on soil analysis he will become satisfied I think that in spite of his "*elementary and fundamental laws of science,*" a *soluble salt of lime can and does exist in the soil. True*, granite contains, as T. G. C. states, but little lime, and is besides a very indestructible rock; but there are many soils, formed from *granite* rocks, as they are called, and many of these rocks contain large proportions of *hornblende*, sometimes as much as one half of their weight, and this *hornblende*, as much as 12 to 13 per cent. of lime, according to the best chemists, and hence soils formed from such rocks would not be "*remarkably free from lime.*" Your correspondent seems to delight in scientific novelties—but when he gravely asserts that, "*it is probable a majority of granite soils contain no lime at all,*" surely he can't be in earnest. I know many granite soils in my own State and county—the rocks of which containing a large proportion of Feldspar (and it being contrary to the statement of T. G. C. who says Feldspar only occasionally decomposes) very decomposable under atmospheric influences, are constantly disentegrating and yielding directly to the soil abundant supplies of Potash, and indirectly of "silicate of lime." T. G. C. quotes M. Ville to prove that "*ammonia is not an auxiliary of vegetation.*" But the experienced farmer who pays $50 per ton for guano, thinks and decides very differently. In respect to the *causticity* of guano, which our friend declares to be "*powerfully destructive of vegetable vitality,*" I will only state—I have been in the habit for several years of soaking all my seed corn in a solution of molasses and water and then rolling it in guano as long as any would stick, and have never known the germ of the seed in any instance destroyed or injured, and myself and neighbors have used it on unburned tobac-

co beds repeatedly in quantities from the rates of 2000 to 4000 pounds per acre! and have never seen from such applications any bad effect on vegetation farther than that it made the grass grow so fast it was quite trying to weak backs to keep it down. This ends all I have to say to T. G. C., controversially, only for the reason that this discussion is unprofitable to the large mass of your readers, because not understood by them. P. B. P.

For the American Farmer.

A THEORY WITH REGARD TO THE FORMATION OF WHAT IS CALLED "WHITE MEXICAN GUANO," ALSO THE ORIGIN OF COLOMBIAN GUANO.

BALT. May 16th, 1855.

The difference between the Mexican and Peruvian Guano, is supposed to be occasioned by the removal of the soluble portion of the former—in other words, the Islands from which the Peruvian Guano is derived are never moistened by rain—whereas those from which the Mexican Guano is brought, are not only moistened but drenched with rain, and all the soluble part of the Guano is dissolved and filtered through the coral rock of which these islands are composed, with few exceptions.

The soluble part of Guano is Phosphate of Ammonia, or Phosphoric acid combined with "THE *volatile alkali.*"

There are localities where, under a tropical sun, rain seldom occurs, and never in quantities sufficient to wash away the soluble part of the guano—enough however, to moisten and liquefy and ferment the magma, with the assistance of the direct rays of a "tropical sun," backed by the high temperature produced by the rapid fermentation of a thick stratum, that has been accumulating, perhaps for years, without sufficiency of rain to moisten or ferment it; under these circumstances the whole of the ammonia escapes, or is evaporated, leaving the Phosphoric acid free and uncombined, and merely mingled with the Phosphate of lime, or insoluble part of the Guano, or converting it into a Super-Phosphate of lime, in the form of a hard mass with a smooth enamelled, modulated surface.

That the Phosphate of ammonia, (or Phosphoric acid combined with *the* volatile alkali,) *will* part with *all* of its ammonia when heated; leaving Phosphoric acid pure, free and uncombined, all authorities will admit, but any one can prove this by dissolving some of the alkaline phosphate of ammonia, "of the shops," and exposing it in a tumbler to the sun, in a few days it will lose its excess of alkali or ammonia, and become acid—or in other words, be converted from a SUB Phosphate to a SUPER Phosphate, and ultimately, pure Phosphoric acid *alone* will remain, the volatile alkali having entirely escaped, (if the temperature is increased.)

This being admitted, we can easily account for the conversion of coral into Phosphate of lime, because where the Guano is deposited on dense compact magnesian rocks, impervious to water, we find the free phosphoric acid associated with the Phosphate of lime, called Colombian Guano; but on the other hand where Guano is deposited on coral Islands pervious to water, and composed exclusively of carbonate of lime, there we find the Phosphoric acid referred to, filtering through the coral and displacing its carbonic acid, and converting the carbonate into Phosphate of lime, or White Mexican Guano. We detect it in every stage of transformation, and if we reverse the strict translation of the word petrify, we may say that White Mexican Guano is petrified coral, as it retains all the cell structure of the coral, without a particle of carbonate of lime, of which it was originally composed.

There are some very important practical lessons in the use of Guano, based upon these facts, but perhaps the intelligent Agriculturist will prefer to originate them.

DAVID STEWART,
Chemist of Md. State Agricultural Society.
Baltimore, 16th May, 1855.

From the Albany Country Gentleman, of May 10.

GREAT FRAUD IN GUANO.

Every one acquainted with the guano trade of Great Britain is aware that adulteration is carried on to an enormous extent. The laws are stringent, and the penalties in case of detection severe, yet the profits are so large and the difficulty of *proving* the fraud so great, that numbers of dishonest men are willing to brave the chances of detection. The agricultural press, when in the hands of honest, independent men, untrammelled by business connections, is the great safe-guard against these and other impositions; but, though the British agricultural journals are mostly of a high tone and character, their price prevents an extensive circulation; and, indeed, comparatively few farmers take any agricultural paper whatever. Under such circumstances, therefore, it is no wonder that fraudulent manure dealers reap a rich harvest.

We have long been convinced that there were parties in this country engaged in manufacturing various artificial fertilizers which are of little value—and we have done our part towards exposing their fraudulent practices. We were also aware that inferior guanos are often sold under an assurance that they are equal or superior to the best Peruvian, but we had no idea that there was any one in this country engaged in the *manufacture of guano.* We are sorry to say we have been deceived. Numerous as are our agricultural papers, great as are their circulation and influence, they are found insufficient to prevent unscrupulous men from *attempting* to palm off on the credulous farmers of our broad domain a comparatively worthless article, at a high price, under a *false name,* and, what is most to be regretted, it is one of the professed friends and teachers of scientific agriculture, that is engaged in this deception.

How we discovered this fraud, we are not at liberty to state. Suffice it to say, that some six weeks ago, we were informed that an article known as Mexican guano was taken to an establishment, near Newark, N. J., and there mixed with plaster, salt, sugar-house scum, Peruvian guano and quicklime, the whole ground up together and put in bags, marked "CHILIAN GUANO."

Following the directions of our informant, we proceeded to Newark, and there found a large heap, of about 250 tons of Mexican guano, and some 200 tons of the *manufactured article* in bags, marked "Chilian guano," as we had been informed. We also learned that a considerable quantity had already been shipped to New-York and Boston, and one gentleman said he believed a good portion of it had been sent to England.

In New-York we were offered the Chilian guano, if we would take it in quantity, at $25 per ton.

We took samples of both the Mexican and Chil-

ian guano, and made careful duplicate analyses of them in the laboratory of Prof. CARR, of this city, Chemist to the New-York State Agricultural Society. The following are the mean per centage results of the analyses.

MEXICAN GUANO.

Sand,	0.5
Organic matter,	5.0
Phosphate of lime,	26.0
Carbonate of lime,	68.0
	99.5

CHILIAN GUANO.

Water,	4.0
Sand,	2.4
Organic matter,	15.3
Phosphate of lime,	24.5
Sulphate of lime, (plaster,)	9.5
Chloride of sodium, (common salt,)	6.2
Carbonate of lime, (chalk,)	37.6
	99.5
Ammonia,	1.06

Having obtained these results, we proceeded once more to Newark, and there received the following account of the modus operandi, adopted at the factory.

The bags are first marked "CHILIAN GUANO;" they are then moistened with water, and laid in a heap, in layers, *with a quantity of Peruvian guano between each layer.*

The sugar-house scum is pounded fine. Three barrowfuls, of "five half-bushels" each, then are mixed with six barrowfuls of Mexican guano. To this are added 1½ bushels common salt, 1 bushel of plaster, 3 bushels Peruvian guano and ½ bushel of quick lime. When the Peruvian guano and lime are added, "they make it tremendous strong." In other words, the lime sets free the ammonia of the Peruvian guano, and gives the manufactured Chilian guano a strong smell of hartshorn, which, to the unreflecting, is a sure indication of a valuable guano.

The floor, where the bags were filled, was covered with Peruvian guano, in order to make the article look as like genuine guano as possible.

What is Chilian guano, and why is this name given to it instead of the better known Peruvian Guano? The only genuine Peruvian guano in this country comes thro' the hands of BARREDA & BROTHERS, and has their mark upon it; so that it would not be easy to sell a spurious Peruvian guano. Chilian guano is subject to no such regulations, and the books describe it, when "fine,"—and the manufactured article is made fine by grinding—as a "*very* valuable variety, equal to that of the *very best* Peruvian."—The name, therefore, has been chosen with consummate cunning.

The *Oxford (Me.) Democrat* states that it has received a circular containing an analysis of "Chilian guano," made by Prof. HAYES, "Assayer to the State of Massachusetts," and which is "*Endorsed by* Prof. MAPES." This analysis represents the Chilian guano as containing 27.9 per cent, of "azotized organic matter and fixed salts of ammonia." This is a much larger quantity than the sample we analysed contained. The actual quantity of ammonia or nitrogen is not stated, and it is impossible to judge correctly of the value of the manure without it.—Fermented saw-dust, or peat, may be termed "*azotized* organic matter, with fixed salts of ammonia;" and we can see no use of such phraseology except to deceive.

Seeing it stated in the *Southern Farmer* that Chilian guano was about to be tried on the Model farm of the Union Agricultural Society at Petersburg, Va., we wrote to the Superintendent, Mr. NICOL, for information in regard to it. He replied that it was obtained from Messrs. ROWLETT & HARDY of Petersburg, who received it from Mr. S. of Boston. The price was $40 per ton. Mr. T. S. PLEASANTS, the guano inspector at Petersburg, informs us, that having made a chemical examination of the Chilian guano, he told Messrs. R. & H. that "it was a fraud." On this, Messrs. R. & H. wrote to Mr. S., who replied that the opinion of Mr. PLEASANTS "was very different from other gentlemen, mentioning the names of Dr. HAYES, and the Inspector at Richmond, Dr. POWELL."

We have now presented the facts in regard to this Chilian guano manufacture, so far as we have been able to obtain them. Our readers can draw their own inference. Even was the article itself valuable, it would be a gross deception to palm it off as genuine guano; but the article is comparatively worthless, as our analysis fully proves. Thus a ton of it contains 490 lb. insoluble phosphate of lime, which at two cents per lb.—a high estimate—is $9.80; 124 lbs. of salt, worth say $1; 190 lbs. plaster, 50 cents, and 21 lbs. ammonia at 12 cents per lb., $2 52. This is $13.82 per ton. Allowing that the non-azotized organic matter, and carbonate of lime is worth $1.18, we have fifteen dollars as the outside value of a ton of the so-called "Chilian guano." And for this the farmers are asked $40, and are told that it is better than Peruvian guano!

Since writing the above, we have received the May number of the *American Farmer*, containing the report of the Inspector of guano at Baltimore, Md. He says, "two lots, consisting of 100 bags each, were consigned from New-York and Boston, *purporting to be "Chilian Guano," and so marked.* An average sample of that from New-York contained ammonia 1.78 per cent and bone phosphate of lime 21.10 per cent. That from Boston contained 2.56 per cent ammonia and 21.10 phosphate of lime." This is a little more ammonia than we found, and a little less phosphate of lime. The analyses show, however, that the article is comparatively worthless, even taking the highest figures.

THE CHINCH BUG.—We regret to learn from various sources in Virginia, that this devastator has again made its appearance this season in the wheat. A letter from a correspondent in Fluvanna county, of 2d May, says:—

"The wheat crop in this section is looking remarkable well for the season, but our enemy of last year (the chinch bug) has made his appearance this spring in great numbers, and is spreading himself, and taking the most commanding positions in every wheat field in the neighborhood. Already may the effects of his depredations be seen even in the distance, in the *seared* and *yellow* blade of the Wheat. In this regard, the prospect of the farmer, is indeed gloomy. The weather has been quite warm for two or three weeks past, and quite dry now. We had a light rain last night, and a prospect this morning of more of the *same sort*. Abundant showers of rain is our only hope against the chinch bug. The joint worm I think we can *head*, by sowing our wheat early and guanoing heavily. But the chinch bug being more invidious and uncertain in his attacks, I know of no way of beating him."

WORK IN THE GARDEN.

JUNE.

Melons, Cantaleupes.—Attend to these, so that they may neither suffer from weeds, or drought. They should, until laid by, be kept clean, the earth stirred, and, in times of drought, not permitted to suffer for water.

Bunch Beans.—Your early crop of Beans should be kept clean from weeds; the earth occasionally stirred to open the soil to the influences of the dew, and in dry weather, they should be freely watered, at least every other day, just before sundown.

In the beginning of this month plant a main crop both to use green, and for culinary purposes when ripe.

Garden Peas.—Drill in a few rows of the marrow-fat variety every ten days during the month for late use, and to continue the supply. Shady situation best at this season.

Setting Out Cabbage Plants.—Avail yourself of the first rain to set out Cabbage plants. Water the plants every day or every other day, just before sun set, until they get well established and begin to grow. Continue your watering until rain occurs, and repeat it in dry seasons, and don't forget to water them with soap suds every few weeks.

Cucumbers and Cymblins.—Keep these clean and water them in dry seasons.

Sweet Potatoes.—Draw earth around the hills, to enlarge them and encourage the growth of the roots, lay the vines off regularly, keep the ground free from weeds, and in dry weather give the hills a watering two or three times a week just before sunset.

Cauliflowers.—The early cauliflowers will be producing their heads, and they should have their leaves carefully broken down to preserve the flowers from the sun and rain.

Plants that may be advancing in growth, or coming into flower, should in dry weather be frequently well watered. Draw the earth, basin fashioned, around the stalks, to retain the water—place the water in the basin, in order that it may soak down about the roots and nourish and push forward the growth of the plants.

Plants from late sowing should be set out, if of sufficient size. This should only be done in moist or cloudy weather, or just before or after a rain, and care must be observed, not to permit the plants to suffer for the want of water, and to keep them clean and the earth frequently stirred.

Sowing Cabbage Seed.—Sow seeds of the early sorts to raise plants to be set out for early fall cabbages.

Broccoli.—Avail yourself of the first rain to set out such of your broccoli plants as may be of sufficient size, and treat them as recommended for cauliflowers.

Celery.—Such celery plants as are of sufficient size should now be planted out in trenches.

Asparagus.—The asparagus bed now running up to seed should be kept clean of weeds, so also should the seedlings intended for next year's planting.

Leeks.—These may now be set out.

Lettuce.—Set out the plants that are big enough to head and sow more seed.

Small Sallading.—Seed of small sallading of all kinds should now be sown.

Carolina and Lima Beans.—Hoe, and weed, and earth up your Carolina and Lima Beans, and be careful to see that they have proper poles placed for the support of the vines.

Radishes.—Sow Salmon radish seed.

Carrots, Parsnips, and Onions.—Keep these clean of weeds. If your onions should show a disposition to go to seed, bend the tops gently over with a long stick. In a few days, gently bend the tops back again.

Beets.—Thin these out to proper distances, say 10 inches apart.

Early Turnips.—Prepare a bed and sow seed.

Salsify.—Thin out the salsify plants so as to stand 6 inches apart in the rows, and keep them clean of weeds.

Endive.—If your endive plants are large enough, plant them out the first rain; and sow more seed.

Okra.—Thin these out, weed them with hoe and hand, and draw earth around them.

Tomatoes and Egg Plants.—Set out your tomatoes and egg plants, the first good rain that may occur, and in times of drought don't let them suffer for the want of water.

Red Peppers.—About the 20th of this month set out your red pepper plants of various kinds, in rows 2 feet apart, the plants 12 inches asunder. When you set your plants out, water them, and keep the earth stirred and free from weeds afterwards. You may also sow seeds in drills 2 feet apart half an inch deep.

Pot and Medicinal herbs may now be planted out, a good season always to be selected for such work, that is just before or after a rain, and they must not be permitted to suffer for want of water in time of drought.

Gathering Herbs.—All kinds of herbs which are gathered for drying, or for distillation, should be gathered just when they come into bloom.

In conclusion we would be permitted to hope that the members of the Maryland State Agricultural Society, and the *Ladies* of their respective families, will feel themselves called upon by a sense of duty, to have specimens of the produce of their fields, orchards, gardens, as well as the products of female ingenuity on exhibition at the Society's Fair in October.

MADDER.—*A Hint to Farmers.*—The Delaware Republican says:

This article, which is used for coloring or dying various kinds of goods, is cultivated to some extent in this country. In the field on the farm of Jonathan D. George, lying on the road a short distance beyond Hare's corner, are some two or three acres of ground covered with it. We learn that it takes three years to come to perfection. The root, which furnishes the coloring matter, is dug up, dried, ground into a fine powder, and then is disposed of in Philadelphia. We have no doubt it yields a handsome profit. Our farmers might profit something by this hint.

INSECTS.—We regret to learn from various parts of Virginia, and in some of the counties of our own State, that the chinch bug, the joint worm and the fly have appeared in large numbers again this season, to frustrate the hopes of the farmer and planter, which added to the drawback occasioned by the drought, will be found very oppressive to many of them.

FLORAL DEPARTMENT FOR JUNE 1855.

Prepared for the American Farmer, by John Feast, Florist.

Neatness is a point required in every thing now, as all planting out of doors will be about finished—have all plants requiring it, neatly trained, as they grow, and tie up such as are liable to be broken by the wind. Keep the borders and walks free from weeds, and move the grass frequently to keep it in order; rolling would be a benefit before it is cut. Finish sowing immediately of such seeds and roots that are not yet planted—if any plants which have been planted out require water, they should be attended to, in order to establish them. Plant in the borders any flowering plants that can be turned out of pots; in the summer season they make a fine show; such as Erythrinas, Oleanders, Hibiscus, Salvias, and Scarlet Geraniums, with many others, to fill up the borders, if there is room and a scarcity of annual or perennial plants that the winter may have destroyed—all such can be taken up in the Fall and carefully potted, and with proper pruning, make handsome plants, if rightly managed; a constant supply of bloom can be had through the season, until the Chrysanthemums begin to flower, which now should be headed down to within nine inches of the roots. This makes them branch and throw out side shoots, and insures a much finer bloom than when allowed to run up so tall, as we often see them—now is a good time to increase them by propagation in small pots for a late bloom in the greenhouse or frames.

Fuchias will be showing fine at this time; repot all such that require moving, and tie up neatly those of a straggling habit; give a little guano water once or twice a week, if a fine bloom is wanted—keep them free from the red spider by frequent syringing, as they like a moist atmosphere and seldom look well in a dry open situation—they should be shaded from the mid-day sun, and kept in a cool, regular temperature.

Gloxinias and Achemenes are coming in bloom—they require to be kept moist, also, but with plenty of light and air, otherwise they are apt to damp off at the root; repot in proper sized pots, and fumigate whenever the Aphides are seen, which soon destroy the beauty of the plants if infested much, which they are very liable to be, but are easily kept down if properly managed.

Greenhouse plants of all kinds may be put out of doors if not already done; and require less water if they can be plunged in the border or some place on purpose for them; have them arranged neatly, and not too thick, as plants become weak when crowded together, and seldom flower so well the following season—if they are turned round once or twice through the season, it helps to make finer specimens, and are not all drawn on one side, as is often seen, in many collections, for want of better attention.

Bulbous roots that have done flowering, whose leaves are turning yellow, should be cleared of all that are decayed; take the roots up, or otherwise plant annuals over them, by stirring up the soil with a fork, to a certain depth, and not injuring the bulb. Mignonette or any dwarf annuals, will do, if the seed is sown, and they will not injure the bulb at all, which is better than leaving the border vacant all summer—but the best plan is to take them up every year and keep them in a cool dry place through the summer, and then plant in the month of October or November.

Many plants may be propagated from cuttings if a fresh stock is wanted, and for roses, this is the best time, either by budding or otherwise.

We have received from the publisher J. W. Randolph, Richmond, vol 1. of Journal of Transactions of the Virginia State Agricultural Society from its organization to the close of its first annual exhibition in 1853. This is a record of the first year's doings of this patriotic Society, with a number of essays, addresses, &c. delivered before the Society, making a volume of some two hundred pages full of valuable matter. Also, "Agricultural Essays" by Edmund Ruffin, a volume of four hundred pages, being a collection of some of the most valuable essays on various agricultural topics by that veteran Farmer and distinguished agricultural writer.—This work will no doubt receive from the whole farming and planting interest of the Southern States in whose service Mr. Ruffin has been so long and usefully engaged, the high appreciation it so well merits.

High Price—The Alexandria Gazette of the 21st ult. says:—We understand that a gentleman in Fairfax County has sold his growing crop of Wheat to a firm in Georgetown, for $3 25 per bushel (?) This is the highest price we have heard of being paid any where for Wheat.

A valuable Farm in Lancaster County, Va. is advertised by Mr. Sprigg, in our advertising pages. In our last, it was stated that it was situated eighty miles from the mouth of the Rappahannock, which was an error—it should have read *eight*. A great bargain may probably be found in this farm, the owner from family considerations, being desirous to remove to another county of the State.

Sheep.—Those intending to improve their flocks of Sheep, are referred to the advertisements of Messrs. Reybold and Jessup. The character of the flocks of these gentlemen are well established, and purchasers may rely on obtaining superior animals from them.

BALTIMORE MARKETS—May 28.

Howard st. $10.87 a $11, and City Mills Flour, $10.62 a $10 87; supply light, and but little doing, holders not being anxious to sell—Rye Flour, $7.50 a $7.62;—City Mills Corn Meal, $5 per bbl.; and Country Meal, $4.75a $4.81—Wheat, inactive, the market to-day rather dull; good to prime red 2.45 a 2.53, and ordinary to prime white 2.40 to 2.60; yellow Corn, 1.06 a 1.07, white 1.07a 1.08—Rye, Pa. 1.60—Oats, dull, Md. and Va. 62 a 64, and Pa. 66a. Whiskey 37½ a 38½c. for bbls. market quiet, though firm—Rice, 6¼ a 6¾—Sugar, market firm at full prices—Molasses, 30 a 31 for N. O.;—Provisions are active and buoyant, and prices well sustained: Bacon Hams 10¼c; bulk shoulders, 7½, do sides 8¼, city smoked bacon sides 9¼, western do. 9½; bacon shoulders 8¼, soft Mess Pork, $17. good do. $17 50—Fish, Shad 9.25 a 10, Herrings, 4.75a 5.25 for short and full bbls.—Mackerel No. 1, 20 a 21, No. 2 large do. 16a18, No 2 small 10a 10 50, No. 3 large 9 50 a 10, and No. 4, 3.50 a 4—Clover Seed 6 50 a 7, Timothy do. 3 50 a 3.75, Linseed, $1.65 a 1.70—Hay, baled $23 a 25, and loose from wagons 18 a 19 per ton; Straw, rye 13 a 14, wheat $ per ton—Turpentine 48c. and Tar 3 a 3.25, both scarce and in demand; Pitch $2.37 a 2.50; corn

ain 1.75 per bbl.—Linseed Oil 95c. per gal.: Potatoes, com. white, $1 per bush., mercer $1.20 a 30—Plaster, lump $2 87 a $3 per ton, ground $1.25 1.37—Tobacco, Md. continues in active demand, and all that is received is promptly taken, at full prices, viz: $6 a 6 50, good com. to mid. leafy 6.75 7.50, and good to prime brown 7.50 a 9.50;—in Ohio, prices are also fully maintained, viz: inferior to sound com. 6.50 a 7, and good com. to mid. red 7.25 a 7.50, good red and yellow spangled 8 a 10, and good fine and yellow $11 a 15—Wool, unwashed 17 a 20, full 20 a 24, tub washed 26 a 29, com. fleece washed 25 a 27, and Merino fleece washed 35 a 40—Cattle, ranging from $5.25 to $7, aver ging $6.25—Hogs, 7 a 7.75 per 100 lbs. and Sheep 4.50 a 5 per 100 lbs. gross.

Valuable Farm for Sale.

THE subscribers are authorized to sell the large and valuable estate, known as LODGE FARM, (formerly the property of Col. John E. Howard,) situated on Patapsco Neck, twelve miles from Baltimore, and containing FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO ACRES, more or less. It is bounded on the East by the North Point Creek; by Patapsco River on the South; by Back River on the North, and by the farm of Mr. Henry Jones on the West. The improvements consist of a substantial TWO-STORY DWELLING, with two Kitchens and Rooms for servants—a large two-story BRICK BARN, with stabling at each end—Ice-house, Dairy, Granary,—there have been extra buildings put up within the last two years—corn house, cow house, piggery, sheep house, meat house, &c. About two hundred and fifty acres are cleared and under cultivation—the balance is well timbered with HICKORY, OAK, &c. There is every facility for loading vessels from each field. There are several admirable Gunning and Fishing Points on this Farm, and any quantity of Wild Fowl and Fish can be procured without difficulty in the proper season. The ground has been well improved by the use of Guano, lime and ashes, large quantities of each having been used within a short time past. There are now 37 Acres in Wheat. Persons desirous of purchasing a first rate farm, are invited to view the premises.

TERMS.—One-third cash, one-third in twelve months, and the remaining third in two years, with security and interest on the credit payments.

For further particulars, apply to SAMUEL BARNES, Washingtonville, Baltimore county, or to SHEPPARD A. LEAKIN, Attorney at Law, Monument Square. Letters addressed to either of the undersigned, will receive prompt attention. Price $30 per acre. Title indisputable. It is supposed that $5000 worth of wood can be cut from the place, and that a portion of the soil is adapted to the manufacture of brick.

SAMUEL BARNES,
apr1 SHEPPARD A. LEAKIN.

Piano Fortes.

THE subscriber has always on hand the largest assortment of *Pianos* in the city, at prices varying from $200 to $500, from the celebrated Factories of *Chickering & Sons, Hall & Clark, Rosenkranz*, and other makers, with full Iron Frames. Those who desire a very superior Piano, and at a low price, are invited to examine them.

☞Orders from the country will be as fully and faithfully attended to as if the parties were personally present.

F. D. BENTEEN,
181 *Baltimore Street, and*
feb 1 Large Wareroom, 84 Fayette-st. near Charles.

GUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, &c.

MERRILL, LATROBE & THOMAS, *No. 204 Baltimore St., near Charles,* Keep constantly on hand the largest assortment of

GUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, &c.

and everything appertaining to sportsman's use.

N. B.—Agents for the celebrated Diamond Grain Powder and other brands.
jan 1-1y

To Farmers and Dealers in Agricultural IMPLEMENTS.

COTTINGHAM & JOHNSON, MANUFACTURERS OF FARMING TOOLS, beg leave to call attention to their large assortment of superior PLOUGHS and HARROWS in great variety; CULTIVATORS, WHEAT FANS, STRAW CUTTERS, CORN SHELLERS, WHEAT THRESHERS, RAILWAY & SWEEP HORSE POWERS, CORN PLANTERS, CORN CRUSHERS, ROAD SCRAPERS, HORSE RAKES, WHEAT CRADLES, CASTINGS, by the ton or single piece, for Ploughs and Machines. We have gone to great expense, the last year, in putting additional labor saving machinery in our Factory, and are prepared to sell, wholesale or retail, on the most liberal terms.

Southern Buyers are invited to give us a call, before going East. *We are again agents for McCormick's Reaping and Mowing Machine.* Both members of this firm being practical mechanics in the manufacture of Agricultural Implements, we can recommend this Reaper. Fifty-six of those Reapers passed through our hands last year, and we have not heard one complaint, but have received many testimonials in their favor.

☞We have this year enlarged our Store, and connected the SEED DEPARTMENT with our old business, and will be prepared to supply all orders for FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS, warranted fresh and genuine.

COTTINGHAM & JOHNSON,
Plough and Seed Store,
No. 150 Pratt Street Wharf,
mar1-4t Baltimore, Md.

M'CONKEY, PARR & CO.
Grocers and Commission Merchants,
Nos. 87 *and* 89, *Bowly's Wharf, Balt.*

OFFER their services to Farmers and others, for the disposal of GRAIN and other produce. Having devoted may years to the business, they flatter themselves their long experience and extensive facilities enable them to assure the highest going market prices, and entire satisfaction in the sales. Personal attention is given to the delivery and weighing of Wheat consigned to their care. Charge for commision, one cent per bushel.

☞They would call the attention of Farmers to their large and extensive stock of GROCERIES, WINES and LIQUORS, and would solicit an examination before purchasing elsewhere.

☞Particular attention given to the purchase of *Agricultural Implements, Seeds, Guano, &c.* je 1-tf.

DINSMORE & KYLE,
GROCERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 156 *Pratt Street Wharf, Balt.*

OFFER their services to the Agricultural community for the sale of GRAIN, and other Produce. Strict attention will be paid to the weighing of Grain. They will also purchase Guano, and other manures for a moderate commission.

They invite attention to their stock of GROCERIES, LIQUORS & WINES, (many of the latter, very old, and of rare qualities,) all of which will be sold on pleasing terms.

To any business entrusted to them, they promise their best efforts. Feb. 1-1 yr.

"REGISTER."

THE best son of the renowned Priam, out of Maria Louisa, by Monsieur Tonson, will stand this season at the stables of WM. A. COMBS & J. EDWIN COAD, near Piney Point and Mill Stone Landings, on the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers, St. Mary's county, Md., at $20 the season, 50 cents to the groom: insurance $30: pasturage 50 cents per week: grain at market price, and no liability for accidents or escapes. Gentlemen wishing to send mares to "Register," can save the expense of servants, by notifying the last named subscriber, (Great Mills P. O.,) at what Landing, and on what day they will arrive.

WM. A. COMBS,
apr1 J. EDWIN COAD.

READY ON THE 17th OF MARCH.
"HISTORY OF THE HEN FEVER,"
BY GEORGE P. BURNHAM. TWENTY ILLUSTRATIONS.

AN original humorous account of the POULTRY MANIA! by one who has been there! ☞Price $1.25 in cloth. Every body who loves to laugh, buys it. Address

JAMES FRENCH & CO., Publishers,
apr1-3t Boston, Mass.

OIL OF VITRIOL, for dissolving Bones. BI-PHOSPHATE OF LIME—PATENT ICE PITCHERS, for sale by

JAMES H. STIMPSON, Manufacturing Chemist,
apr1-6m 41 S. Charles st. Baltimore.

McCORMICK'S
CELEBRATED
REAPING & MOWING MACHINE

BALTIMORE, May 1st, 1855.

I have heretofore announced to the Farmers of the country through the *American Farmer*, that I had procured the Agency, for the sale of C. H. McCormick's combined Reaping and Mowing Machine in this city.

I have through printed Circulars and other channels made know my agency, together with some strong Testimonials of the value of this machine, both for Grain and Grass cutting—it has been shown that while these machines have long been justly celebrated, and as evidenced, by the large demand for them for many years past, those made for the harvest of 1854, surpassed in excellence all that had been made prior to them, and proved themselves to be the best machines of the kind in the country—that while McCormick's Reaper has had no rival, his REAPING AND MOWING Machine of 1854, was equally successful and superior—being made heavier and stronger for Southern use, than previously. Eighteen hundred (1800) of these machines were sold from the manufactory of Mr. McCormick, in Chicago, for the harvest of 1854, without supplying the demand for the same, and in consequence of which LATE ORDERS in this direction could not, of course, be supplied; and although a very large supply of them is being made for the ensuing harvest, and every means has been secured for having them delivered here by RAIL ROAD, promptly and in ample time, for all practical purposes, (together with a full supply of all the seperate parts of the machines, for replacing any such parts as may be broken,) a similar disappointment will, doubtless be experienced by those wanting these machines, who delay ordering until near the harvest. It may be added, that there are also *some improvements* on this machine since the last harvest, which still further *perfects* it as a mower, and, which consists in first making the guard finger of malleable instead of *cast* Iron, as before—by which improvements the fingers are much smaller, and more penetrating than formerly, and will pass through the most thickly set and lodged grass, more *easily* and perfectly than heretofore—the *divider*, is also made more penetrating for similiar conditions of the grass.

This machine *cuts a wider swath* than any other, and at the same time requires *less power* and *labor* from *operator and horses*, which are important considerations, while no *fast driving* is regarded. The terms of sale, and guaranty of performance, are made satisfactory. Verdict of the Jury for the Plaintiff $7,750.

A word to our neighbor: It seems rather strange that "*Obed Hussey*" has so much to say (in the April number of the Farmer) about his having been the first to originate a successful Reaping Machine, and others *without exception*, bring in the use *of his invention*, "SPURIOUS IMITATIONS OF OBED HUSSEY'S ORIGINAL REAPER!!!" while he seems not to have been troubled with law suits against infringers of his invention. So far as *Mr. McCormick's* is concerned, I am authorised by him to say in short, that these statements of *Obed Hussey* are incorrect, if really and sincerely meant to apply to his machine—it having been established through the Courts, as any one might have observed, that C. H. McCormick's "Original Invention," was two years prior to "Obed Hussey's."

As appears in the following extract from the charge of His Honor, Mr. Justice Nelson, to the Jury in the Circuit Court of the U. S. for the District of New York, at Albany, October 24, 1854—

In the case of Cyrus H. McCormick vs. William H. Seymour and Dayton S. Morgan.

"It appears from the evidence in the case, that Hussey and McCormick turned their attention to the construction of a Reaping Machine very nearly at the same period; Mr. McCormick TWO OR THREE YEARS the earlier. They have persevered from that time down to the present, and they have each of them, it is conceded, brought out a successful reaping machine."

Farmers will please send their orders early to

B. M. RHODES,

Baltimore Agricultural Warehouse,

No. 141 West Pratt Street, (OPPOSITE THE MALTBY HOUSE,)

Where can be found Agricultural Implements of every description from the celebrated manufacturers, "Ruggles, Nourse, Mason & Co.," as also from others of note.

GUANO,

PERUVIAN and MEXICAN, as also PHOSPHATE OF LIME, warranted pure, together with all Fertilizers of merit.

je1-1t B. M. RHODES.

REAPERS.

THE FIRST INVENTOR.

I am called to account, in the May number of the American Farmer by B. M. Rhodes, who professes to speak by authority of Cyrus H. McCormick, for pretending to be the first to originate a successful Reaping Machine. I can pass over the discourteous manner in which my name is introduced, but must say a word in defence of my position, as the originator of the first successful Reaping Machine. It is true, as Mr. Rhodes says, I am not troubled with Law Suits against infringers, as my friend Mr. McCormick is; and it is for the simple reason, that I am more indulgent than he is; for I have twenty infringers to his one.

The evidence in the New York Court, quoted by B. M. Rhodes, has nothing to do with this case. Mrs. Steel testifies that McCormick had a Reaper the year a certain house was built, which had 1831 on the gable end; the other evidence of his priority was about equal to this. But suppose my friend McCormick did make an abortive attempt at a Reaper, two or three years previous to my successful attempt, it only places him in the same category with others, who made similar abortive attempts fifty years before him. I never claimed to be the first man to attempt to build a Reaper, but I claim to be the first one to make a successful one. I can prove my Reaper to have been entirely successful, as early as 1833, while my friend McCormick was so unsuccessful between 1831 and 1834, that his father and family advised him to abandon his Reaper and pursue his regular business, as likely to be more profitable. He sold no machines until 1840, and his machines were of no practical value until 1845, while my Reapers had been perfectly successful for twelve years.

To show the early success, and practical value of my Reaper, at the period when McCormick's was looked upon as a complete abortion, even by his own family, I will here insert a letter from a practical farmer, and merchant of standing of Illinois.

SPRING CREEK, SANGAMON CO., ILL.,
Mr. Obed Hussey, Baltimore. Oct. 1st, 1854.

In answer to your query, how your Reaping Machine worked in 1834, I have to say that it cut about sixteen acres of wheat for me on my farm; that it did the work in first rate style; according to my best recollection, as well as any of the machines that have since been introduced. The only objection I recollect being made, was that when the straw was wet, or there was much green grass among the wheat, the blades would choke. You certainly demonstrated in 1834 the practicability of cutting grain or grass with horse power; and all the machines since introduced, seem to have copied your machine in all its essential features.

I am, respectfully yours, JOHN E. CANFIELD.

I will also insert an extract from a communication from Wm. C. Dwight, dated Dec. 6, 1834, addressed to the Editor of the Genessee Farmer, and may be found in No. 49, Vol. 4, of that paper.

"The machine has been fully tried, and I am gratified to be able to say, that it has fully succeeded; hundreds of farmers from different towns of this and the adjoining counties, have witnessed its operations, and all have not only expressed their confidence in its success, but their gratification in the perfection of the work.

As every inquirer asks the same series of questions, I presume your readers will have a like course of thought, and wish for satisfaction in the same particulars. To give them this, I will write them in their order, and give the answers:

Does the machine make clean work?

It saves all the grain. To use the language of a gratified looker-on, an old and experienced farmer, "it cheats the hogs."*

Does the machine expedite the work?

What the machine is capable of accomplishing, we who have used it can hardly say, as we had no field in fit order, large enough for a fair trial thro' a whole day; and can only say what it has done. Five acres of heavy wheat, on the Genessee flats, were harvested in two hours and a quarter."

*The hogs are the gleaners in that section of country.

With regard to my statement that all other Reapers, without exception, were indebted to my invention for the essential features which make them of any practical value as Reaping and Mowing Machines, I will say for the especial benefit of B. M. Rhodes, (as others generally know it,) that C. H. McCormick abandoned his original invention alluded to by the New York Court, of the straight blade, several years ago, and substituted projecting blades, vibrating between double guards, being identical in principle with my original invention.

As no other person but B. M. Rhodes appears to contest the honor of originality, I will here rest my claim for the present, presuming that my friend Mr. McCormick will not thank Mr. Rhodes for entering the list in his cause with so little prudence.

june 1-1t **OBED HUSSEY.**

OFFICE INSPECTOR OF GUANO,
No. 11 EXCHANGE BUILDING.

Analysis of following Cargoes of GUANO imported since last report, published in May number of American Farmer.

1855	PERUVIAN.			
April 19—Jamestown,	16 63 per ct.	ammonia, marked	A.
" 26—Stephen Lurman,	16 30 do	do	A.
" 23—Phenix,	16,19 do	do	A.
" —Annawan,	16 10 do	do	A.
May 2—A. M. Lawrence,	16.38 do	do	A.
" —Alexandria,	16.58 do	do	A.
" 3—Chenango,	16.71 do	do	A.
" 4—Rob't Centre,	16 30 do	do	A.
" 8—Herscilia,	15.73 do	do	A.
" 9—Faneul Hall,	16 25 do	do	A.
" 10—Michael Angelo,	16 25 do	do	A.
" 11—Sir Jno. Franklin,	16.50 do	do	A.
" 19—Lanerk,	15 95 do	do	A.

All of above cargoes contained from 12 to 14 per ct. of Phosphoric Acid, equal to from 26 to 30 per ct. of Bone Phosphate of Lime.

Portions of the above cargoes were separated and marked D.

MEXICAN.

	Phosphoric acid.	Bone Phos. Lime.	
April 28th, Alrucebah, contains	11.62 per ct.	equal to 23.87 per ct,	marked D.
May 10th, Mary, do	do 27.10	do 61.34	AA.
" 21 Icarian, two lots, 1st	25 97	do 59.27	AA.
do do do 2d	19 38	do 42.43	B.

june 1-1t WM. S. REESE, State Inspector.

Davy's Devon Herd Book.

Now ready a *large supply* of both 1st and 2d Vols. bound in one Book, and containing all the subjects connected with the Devon records of both England and America up to the present time; also as a frontispiece the beautiful engraving of the celebrated picture known as the "*Quarely Testimonial*," which is a full length portrait of Mr. Francis Quarely now living at 91 years of age. It is also illustrated with two animals, Prize winners in England. Price $1.00, and can be had by enclosing the amount to B. P. Johnson, Corresponding Secretary of New York State Society, Albany, New York—Luther Tucker, Editor of "*The Country Gent.*" Albany, New York; Sandford Howard, Boston, Massachusetts; D. D. T. Moore, Editor W. G. & S. Register, Rochester, New York; A. B. Allen, Editor of "*American Agriculturist*," New York; Samuel Sands, Editor of "*American Farmer*," Baltimore, Maryland; A. M. Spangler, Editor of "*Progressive Farmer*," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Lee and Redmond, Editors of "*Southern Cultivator*," Augusta, Georgia, and Wm. McDougall, Editor of "*Canadian Agriculturist*," Toronto, Canada. It gives me pleasure to state, that Mr. Davy has solicited Mr. S. Howard of "*The Boston Cultivator*" to collect pedigrees, and illustrations in this country for the 3d Volume, and has authorized Mr. H. to obtain information as to any and all mistakes which may have been made, as to the recording of American animals in Davy's 2d Vols, and such corrections will be made in the 3d Vol. The plan proposed that a copy of all the pedigrees and illustrations collected by Mr. H. as the Editor in America, shall be forwarded to Mr. Davy and a copy of those collected by Mr. D. will be sents to Mr. H. in this country. The whole matter will be published in America for our use, and in England for their use, by which means America and English Devon Herd Book will be united, and the price reasonable as the expense of English printing and duties will be saved.—This concert of action has been brought about by Mr. Davy's good feeling and liberality towards this country, and I am only the instrument through which Mr. Davy acts; and from this time forth Mr. Howard will receive all communications on the subject, as will appear by reference to his advertisements.

All Editors who will give the above three insertions will receive a copy of the 1st, 2d and 3d Volumes.

L. G. MORRIS,
American Agent for J. Tanner Davy's Devon Herd Book.
jul-1t

Valuable N. Carolina Farm For Sale.

THE subscriber desirous of locating in the western part of the State, offers at private sale the very desirable Farm which he now occupies, located in the counties of Greene and Pitt, near the Greenville and Raleigh Plank Road, and contains *six hundred, ninety-two and a half acres*. This Farm is in a fine state of improvement, and is abundantly supplied with springs and wells of excellent water. There is every facility for manuring—Marl inexhaustible, of the richest quality, and any quantity of rich mud for compost. The improvements consist of a first rate two story dwelling, and every necessary outhouse, all new. Churches, Mills, and Post Office convenient.

Any person wishing to purchase a good N. C. Farm, would do well to view the premises. A more particular description and the price, may be had by addressing me at Marlboro,' N. C. or personally on the premises. Terms made easy.

April, 1855. GEO. JOYNER.
june 1-6t

LUTHER O. HARDING. WILLIAM HOPKINS.

HARDING & HOPKINS,
Grocers and Commission Merchants,

No. 2 BOWLY'S WHARF, 2d DOOR FROM PRATT STREET,

Would respectfully call the attention of our friends and the public generally to our stock of Groceries, Liquors and Segars.

Particular attention paid to weights of wheat and receiving all kinds of Country produce. ju-1y

WARNER'S PATENT
SUCTION, FORCING, AND ANTI-FREEZING
PREMIUM PUMP.

This is the most simple, durable, powerful, and cheap Pump in use. It forces the water from deep wells into Bath Rooms, Spring Houses, Barns, &c., and by using hose supplies abundantly water gardens and lawns.

☞The Pump can be seen at any time in operation at No. 22 Second street.

R. MIDDLETON,
ju 1-3t No. 22 Second street, Baltimore.

JESSE MARDEN,
INVENTOR AND MANUFACTURER
OF
RAILROAD, LIVESTOCK, HAY, COAL, DEPOT & WAREHOUSE,

and all other SCALES, that are now used, keeps constantly on hand a large assortment of every size, and makes to order at short notice, and warrants them to stand tests with any Scales that are forced in market on commission, and will sell at much less prices. The public are invited to send their orders, or call at my old stand, 59 South Charles street, corner of Balderston. JESSE MARDEN. jul-3t

COTSWOLD SHEEP.

THE SUBSCRIBER will have ready for delivery in August, a number of Buck and Ewe Lambs, of the imported Cotswold breed, got by his imported buck, out of his fine ewes, from the flock of Mr. Reybold of Delaware.

He has also a few of his last year's Bucks and Ewes, which can be delivered at once. Address,

WM. JESSOP,
Cockeysville, Baltimore Co., Md.
Or to S. Sands & Worthington, American Farmer Office.
je. 1-3t

Cotswold or new Oxfordshire Sheep.

THE Subscriber has for sale a lot of extra fine yearling Bucks, of this celebrated breed, the first that have been bred from the superior Bucks of his last importation. He also has 5 two year old Bucks of the same breed for sale.

WILLIAM REYBOLD,
Marshmount, near Delaware city, Del.

☞The Richmond, Va. *Planter*, Petersburg, Va. *Farmer*, Fredericksburg, Va. *News*, and Raleigh, N. C. *Arator*, will publish the above three times, and send one paper with the bill to the subscriber.
june 1-3t W. R.

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